U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Social Security Administration



# Social Security Bulletin

May 1956 Volume 19 Number 5

THE SOCIAL SECURITY BULLETIN is the official monthly publication of the Social Security Administration. An annual statistical supplement, with calendar-year data, has been carried as part of each September issue since 1950. Statements in BULLETIN articles do not necessarily reflect official policies of the Social Security Administration.

☆ ☆ ☆

The BULLETIN is prepared in the Division of Research and Statistics, Office of the Commissioner, Social Security Administration, under the editorial supervision of Josephine Merican and Angela Murray, Associate Editors. Suggestions or comments concerning the BULLETIN should be addressed to the Division of Research and Statistics. The BULLETIN is planned with the advice and aid of an editorial advisory committee representing the units of the Social Security Administration.



☆ ☆ ☆

The *Social Security Bulletin* is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Price: $2.00 a year in the United States, Canada, and Mexico; $2.75 in all other countries; single copies, 20 cents.

The printing of this publication has been approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget (October 8, 1953).



# *Social Security Bulletin*

*May 1956*

*Volume 19*

*Number 5*

## *In this issue:*

# Social Security in Review

THE old-age and survivors insurance program at the end of February was paying monthly benefits amounting to $419.4 million to almost 8.1 million persons. The number of beneficiaries increased during the month by almost 66,000 or 0.8 percent. This increase is about 50 percent greater than the gain in January but is only slightly more than half that registered in February 1955, when program operations first reflected the liberalization in the retirement test under the 1954 amendments to the Social Security Act.

Retired workers and their dependents—aged wives, dependent husbands, wives under age 65 with child beneficiaries in their care, and young children—numbered 5.9 million and made up almost 73 percent of all beneficiaries. Their monthly benefits, which totaled $325.2 million, represented almost 78 percent of all monthly benefits payable under the program for February. As a proportion of all beneficiaries, retired workers and their dependents have increased about 10 percent since August 1950—the last month before the liberalized eligibility provisions under the 1950 amendments became effective.

February was the eighteenth consecutive month in which monthly benefits were awarded to more than 100,000 individuals. Awards numbered 115,000, about 9,000 more than in January. The entire increase occurred in the awards to retired workers and their wives; for all other types of beneficiary there was a small decrease. Lump-sum death payments totaling $8.4 million were made in February; these lump-sum benefits were based on the earnings records of 43,500 deceased workers. The average lump-sum payment per worker was $201.84, a new high.

Monthly benefits were being withheld from 301,000 beneficiaries entitled to old-age, wife's, husband's, widow's, widower's, mother's, or parent's benefits on December 31, 1955—the latest date for which information on the reason for withholding benefits is available. Benefits withheld because of the employment or self-employment of the beneficiaries (under age 72) accounted for almost 83 percent of the suspensions; wife's or husband's benefits withheld as a result of the old-age beneficiary's employment or self-employment represented 12 percent. About 600 benefits were suspended because the beneficiary, or the old-age beneficiary on whose earnings the wife's or husband's benefits are based, was working in noncovered employment outside the United States.

During 1955 the number of beneficiaries whose benefits were withheld—excluding child beneficiaries, for whom data on withheld benefits are not available—declined from 346,000 at the beginning of the year to a low of 275,000 in April and then gradually increased to 301,000 at the year's

| | February 1956 | January 1956 | February 1955 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Old-age and survivors insurance:** | | | |
| Monthly benefits in current-payment status: | | | |
| Number (in thousands) | 8,070 | 8,004 | 7,086 |
| Amount (in millions) | $420 | $415 | $353 |
| Average old-age benefit | $62.22 | $62.02 | $59.92 |
| Average old-age benefit awarded in month | $73.32 | $70.18 | $74.18 |
| **Public assistance:** | | | |
| Recipients (in thousands): | | | |
| Old-age assistance | 2,539 | 2,546 | 2,554 |
| Aid to dependent children (total) | 2,221 | 2,206 | 2,228 |
| Aid to the blind | 105 | 105 | 103 |
| Aid to the permanently and totally disabled | 247 | 245 | 227 |
| General assistance (cases) | 336 | 331 | 380 |
| Average payments: | | | |
| Old-age assistance | $54.08 | $54.32 | $51.71 |
| Aid to dependent children (per family) | 88.81 | 88.29 | 86.12 |
| Aid to the blind | 58.32 | 58.13 | 56.64 |
| Aid to the permanently and totally disabled | 56.43 | 56.21 | 54.60 |
| General assistance (per case) | 55.12 | 54.49 | 56.67 |
| **Unemployment insurance:** | | | |
| Initial claims (in thousands) | 1,049 | 1,349 | 1,038 |
| Beneficiaries, weekly average (in thousands) | 1,309 | 1,200 | 1,694 |
| Benefits paid (in millions) | $144 | $136 | $165 |
| Average weekly payment for total unemployment | $26.95 | $26.61 | $25.07 |

end. At that time the beneficiaries whose benefits were withheld represented 4.3 percent of all adult beneficiaries entitled to benefits, 1.4 percentage points less than the proportion a year earlier.

● Both public assistance expenditures and the total number of persons aided rose slightly in February from the January totals. Expenditures for February amounted to $236 million, and persons receiving assistance numbered about 5,900,000. In February 1955, $230 million was expended for assistance payments, but more persons (a total of 6,100,000) were on the assistance rolls.

Changes in total payments among the five programs in February tended to offset one another to some extent. In old-age assistance, total payments dropped $992,000, with a reduction in Colorado accounting for 92 percent of the decline. In that State the decrease was attributable to a $17 reduction in the average payment for aged recipients. Expenditures in the other four programs for all States combined rose $1,240,000—$578,000 in aid to dependent children, $9,000 in aid to the blind, $159,000 in aid to the permanently and totally disabled, and $493,000 in general assistance.

For the second consecutive month, there was a drop of more than 7,000 in the number of recipients of old-age assistance. Of the 53 jurisdictions, only five reported more aged persons receiving assistance than in the preceding month. Seasonal factors contributed to the increases in aid to dependent children (3,000 families) and general assistance (5,000 cases). These increases, however, were substantially less than those in February 1955. In both programs the seasonal increases in December and January were also well below those of the same months 1 year earlier.

The number of recipients of aid to the blind declined by 175—the first decrease since February 1954. While almost half the States reported fewer recipients than in January, the decreases in California, Florida, and Pennsylvania were primarily responsible for the reduction for the Nation as a whole. The upward trend in the number of persons receiving aid to the permanently and totally disabled continued, with a relatively slight increase of 1,900 during the month.

Appreciable changes in State caseloads and expenditures that could be attributed to new policies were relatively few in February. Colorado's reduction in assistance payments was confined to its old-age assistance program. Mississippi in February began meeting need in full within a $30 maximum for recipients of old-age assistance. The result was only a small increase in the average payment, since about 7 in every 10 aged recipients already had payments at the maximum. Oklahoma also began meeting need in full, within a maximum of $197, for families receiving aid to dependent children; the average payment per family rose $2.69. Payments formerly represented only 90 percent of need, less income exceeding the amount of the reduction (10 percent), within the maximum.

In a few States, policies initiated in January or earlier were still affecting caseloads and payments. The removal of certain items from the standard of assistance in Hawaii, effective in January, resulted in a further sizable reduction in February in the average payment per family receiving aid to dependent children. In New Mexico a lien law became effective in January; a relatives' responsibility law was effective in February. Together they produced relatively significant decreases in February in the number of recipients of old-age assistance (11 percent), aid to the blind (7 percent), and aid to the permanently and totally disabled (5 percent). Liberalizations in the old-age assistance program in Alabama, effective early in 1955, were primarily responsible for the increase of 1,100 (1.2 percent) in the number of persons receiving old-age assistance in that State. Although the February increase in Alabama topped that for January, the increases for both months were considerably less than the average rise (3,200) in the number of aged recipients from February through December 1955.

● Unemployment among workers covered by the State unemployment insurance programs rose slightly (2.9 percent) in February to a weekly average of 1.5 million. The increase was contrary to the usual seasonal pattern; in most postwar years the average has been less in February than in January. Seasonal factors reduced the number of initial claims, which

*(Continued on page 35)*

| | February 1956 | January 1956 | February 1955 | Calendar year 1955 | Calendar year 1954 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Civilian labor force[1 2] total (in thousands) | 65,491 | 65,775 | 63,321 | 65,847 | 64,468 |
| Employed | 62,577 | 62,891 | 59,938 | 63,193 | 61,238 |
| Unemployed | 2,914 | 2,885 | 3,383 | 2,654 | 3,230 |
| Personal income[1 3] (billions; seasonally adjusted at annual rates), total | $313.1 | $312.7 | $293.2 | $303.3 | $287.6 |
| Wage and salary disbursements | 216.0 | 216.2 | 200.3 | 208.5 | 196.2 |
| Proprietors' income | 38.7 | 38.4 | 38.1 | 38.4 | 37.9 |
| Personal interest income, dividends, and rental income | 39.1 | 38.9 | 36.0 | 37.4 | 35.3 |
| Social insurance and related payments | 13.0 | 12.9 | 12.2 | 12.3 | 11.5 |
| Public assistance | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.4 |
| Other | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.1 | 9.3 | 8.9 |
| Less: Personal contributions for social insurance | 5.7 | 5.7 | 5.0 | 5.2 | 4.5 |
| Consumer price index[1 4] | 114.6 | 114.6 | 114.3 | 114.5 | 114.8 |

[1] Data relate to continental United States, except that personal income includes pay of Federal personnel stationed abroad.

[2] Bureau of the Census.

[3] Data from the Office of Business Economics, Department of Commerce. Components differ from those published by the Department, since they have been regrouped; for definitions, see the *Bulletin*, September 1955, page 28, table 1.

[4] Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# *Assets Held by Aged Beneficiaries of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance at End of 1951*

by Vivian B. Norman*

THE national survey of the resources of aged beneficiaries made by the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance in 1951 included a study of their assets.[1] At the end of that year, it was found, three-fourths of the aged beneficiaries included in the survey owned assets. Three-fifths held liquid assets, and half had nonliquid assets. Almost two-fifths reported both liquid and nonliquid assets.

The present article analyzes the type of asset held by beneficiaries of different net worth. It is based on the reports of approximately 18,000 retired-worker and aged-widow beneficiaries, who were interviewed in their homes at the end of 1951 by employees of the Bureau. Ninety percent of these beneficiaries received benefits throughout the survey year[2]; the remaining 10 percent had their insurance benefits suspended 1 or more months of the year. Some of the findings on the net worth and liquid assets of the 90 percent whose benefits were in current-payment status throughout the year were presented in the Bulletin for August 1953.

The net worth of beneficiaries who had some benefit suspensions during the survey year and the value of their liquid assets were slightly larger than the net worth and liquid asset holdings of beneficiaries in current-payment status throughout the year. The net-worth pattern of the entire sample, however, is practically the same as that of the 90 percent who were in current-payment status throughout the year.

## Net Worth

A beneficiary's net worth is the difference between the value of his assets and the amount of his liabilities. The assets taken into consideration include money at home (other than amounts held for current operating expenses); deposits in checking accounts, savings accounts in banks, postal savings, and shares in savings and loan associations and credit unions; Government bonds; corporate stocks and bonds; loans to others; equity in real estate (including farms); interest in an unincorporated business; and patents and copyrights. Net worth in this analysis does not include the cash-surrender value of life insurance or the market value of automobiles; nor does it include the value of personal property such as furniture, household appliances, clothing, and jewelry. If values for these items had been included in the assets, the net worth of many beneficiaries would have been a little higher.

Liabilities taken into consideration are balances owed on installment pur-

* Formerly of the Division of Program Analysis, Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance.

[1] For a description of the survey and of the characteristics of the beneficiaries, as well as some other findings of the study, see the *Bulletin* for August 1952, June and August 1953, April and August 1954, and May and July 1955.

[2] The survey year was a period of 12 consecutive calendar months ended in October, November, or December 1951 or January 1952, depending on the date of the interview.

Benefits could have been suspended during the survey year for receipt of wages of more than $50 in covered employment in a calendar month or of net earnings from self-employment of more than $600 in a calendar month, or as a penalty for violation of certain provisions of the Social Security Act. Under the 1954 amendments, both wage earners and the self-employed beneficiaries may earn $1,200 without losing their benefits. The retirement-test provisions did not apply to beneficiaries aged 75 and over during the survey year; beginning in 1955, they are not applicable to beneficiaries aged 72 and over.

All the data relate to the assets and net worth of the beneficiary group at the end of the survey year; the group may consist of a man or woman and spouse, if married, or an aged widow.

Table 1.—*Percentage distribution of beneficiary groups, by amount of net worth[1] at end of survey year*

| Net worth | Total | Married couples | Single individuals | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Retired men | Retired women | Aged widows |
| Number [2] | 17,661 | 8,104 | 4,769 | 2,235 | 2,553 |
| Total percent | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Negative | 4.0 | 4.3 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 1.7 |
| Zero [3] | 22.8 | 12.2 | 36.8 | 29.7 | 24.5 |
| Positive | 73.2 | 83.5 | 58.5 | 66.1 | 73.8 |
| Less than $500 | 9.0 | 5.4 | 12.5 | 12.9 | 10.1 |
| 500–999 | 4.6 | 3.7 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 4.7 |
| 1,000–1,999 | 5.9 | 5.7 | 6.3 | 6.8 | 5.2 |
| 2,000–2,999 | 4.8 | 5.1 | 4.0 | 5.3 | 5.2 |
| 3,000–3,999 | 4.6 | 4.9 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 4.0 |
| 4,000–4,999 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 3.2 | 3.9 | 4.2 |
| 5,000–9,999 | 17.8 | 22.9 | 10.7 | 14.0 | 18.4 |
| 10,000–24,999 | 17.2 | 23.7 | 9.4 | 10.4 | 16.8 |
| 25,000–49,999 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 3.7 |
| 50,000 or more | 1.6 | 2.3 | 1.0 | .4 | 1.6 |
| Median net worth: | | | | | |
| All beneficiary groups | *$2,767* | *$5,830* | *$339* | *$771* | *$2,748* |
| All beneficiary groups with positive net worth | *5,981* | *7,624* | *3,229* | *3,450* | *5,972* |

[1] Represents the difference between the value of selected assets and total reported debt. Assets represent money at home (except amounts held for current operating expenses), bank deposits, all types of stocks and bonds, loans to others, equity in an owner-occupied home and other real estate, full or part interest in a nonfarm unincorporated business or privately held corporation, and the market value of a professional practice, patents, and copyrights. Liabilities represent balances owed on installment purchases; bills past due on open accounts and for rent, taxes, interest on mortgages, and medical care; and borrowings on life insurance and securities and unsecured borrowings.

[2] Numbers and percentages in this table may differ slightly from those in other tables because the number reporting on different items varies.

[3] Includes a few beneficiary groups whose assets and liabilities balanced.

chases and bills past due on open accounts; back rent, taxes, and interest on mortgages; medical bills; and unsecured borrowings and borrowings on life insurance and securities.[3]

Nearly three-fourths of the 18,000 beneficiaries had a positive net worth; 4 percent had a negative net worth; and more than a fifth had neither assets nor liabilities or had assets and liabilities that balanced. Half the beneficiaries had a positive net worth of more than $2,767; about a fifth were worth $10,000 or more (table 1). The married couples, on the whole, had a considerably higher net worth than the single aged beneficiaries; among the single beneficiaries, the aged widows were better off than the single men and women retired-worker beneficiaries. When all beneficiaries are considered together, therefore, the low net-worth intervals include relatively large proportions of single men and women retired-worker beneficiaries, and the higher net-worth intervals have a heavier concentration of married couples (table 2). This fact explains to some extent the relationship between net worth and type of assets held.

## Types of Assets Held

As net worth increased, an increasing proportion of beneficiaries owned each of the different kinds of assets.

**Table 2.—*Percentage distribution of beneficiary groups within each net-worth[1] interval at end of survey year, by type of beneficiary group***

| Type of beneficiary group | Total | Negative net worth | Zero net worth [2] | Positive net worth: Total | Less than $1,000 | $1,000–2,999 | $3,000–4,999 | $5,000–9,999 | $10,000–24,999 | $25,000 or more |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number [3] | 17,591 | 711 | 3,995 | 12,885 | 2,372 | 1,890 | 1,554 | 3,147 | 3,025 | 897 |
| Total percent | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Married couples | 45.9 | 48.7 | 24.4 | 52.3 | 30.7 | 45.9 | 51.7 | 59.0 | 63.4 | 64.7 |
| Single individuals: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Retired men workers | 27.0 | 31.9 | 43.6 | 21.5 | 35.9 | 25.9 | 22.1 | 16.1 | 14.8 | 15.1 |
| Retired women workers | 12.7 | 13.3 | 16.5 | 11.4 | 17.6 | 14.2 | 12.8 | 10.0 | 7.7 | 5.1 |
| Aged widows | 14.4 | 6.0 | 15.5 | 14.6 | 15.8 | 13.9 | 13.4 | 15.0 | 14.1 | 15.1 |

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.
[2] Includes a few beneficiary groups whose assets and liabilities balanced.
[3] Numbers and percentages in this table may differ slightly from those in other tables because the number reporting on different items varies.

The relationship between net-worth level and the proportion of beneficiaries owning a particular asset, however, varied with each type of asset.

### *Liquid Assets*

The ready availability of an asset for use in supplementing a beneficiary's income or in meeting major or emergency needs is largely determined by the nature of the asset. Disposing of stocks and bonds and collecting on loans made to others is relatively easy, compared with the sale of real estate or an owned business. For that reason, corporate stocks and bonds and loans to others have been included with cash, bank deposits, and Government bonds in the analysis of liquid assets of old-age and survivors insurance beneficiaries, although it is recognized that the market price of such bonds fluctuates considerably.

A good majority (three-fifths) of the beneficiaries, including a few with liabilities that exceeded or balanced assets, had liquid assets of one kind or another (table 3). More than half reported one or more of the kinds of assets included in the category of "cash." For purposes of this analysis the following kinds of assets have been classified as cash: currency at home (excluding amounts on hand for current expenses), savings and checking accounts, postal savings, and deposits or shares in savings and loan associations and credit unions. At the two highest net-worth intervals ($10,000–$24,999 and $25,000 or more) 85 percent and 92 percent, respectively, had cash assets. That it was not closer to 100 percent at these intervals raises some question of the completeness of these respondents' reports. In some instances, however, records were referred to, and the interviewers were convinced that the only cash the beneficiary had was what he had on hand to meet current expenses.

More than a fourth of the beneficiary groups owned Government bonds, usually the Series E savings bonds. Even among the groups with $1–$999 in net worth, a fourth were bond owners; the proportion increased to two-thirds for the beneficiary groups worth $25,000 or more.

Types of assets much less frequently reported include corporate stocks (common and preferred) and bonds. About 1 in 10 of all beneficiary groups owned some stocks or bonds. The proportion was low, 2–9 percent, in the net-worth interval below $10,000. Even among the 3,000 beneficiaries worth $10,000–$24,999, not more than a fifth were stock and bond owners. Three-fifths of the wealthiest group, however, reported that they held corporate stocks and bonds.

Relatively few beneficiaries had made loans to others. Included in the category of loans are investments in mortgages on real estate, amounts owed beneficiaries for services or home produce sold, and loans made by beneficiaries to relatives or other persons. Less than 5 percent of all beneficiary groups and not more than a fifth of the wealthiest beneficiaries reported assets in the form of loans.

[3] The amount of the mortgages on real estate has not been included with liabilities but has been taken into consideration in computing the equity in homes and other real estate. The difference between the Federal Reserve Board studies of consumer finances and the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance studies of resources of insurance beneficiaries in the assets taken into consideration in computing net worth is a minor one and probably affects but little the comparability of the data for the population aged 65 and over. The Federal Reserve Board includes as an asset the market value of automobiles and excludes all currency at home. The Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance excludes the market value of automobiles and includes currency held at home other than that kept on hand for current expenses.

The Federal Reserve Board defines as liquid assets only the following—all types of U. S. Government bonds, checking accounts, savings accounts in banks, postal savings, and shares in savings and loan associations and credit unions. Currency and corporate stocks and bonds are excluded. See the *Federal Reserve Bulletin*, June 1955, page 611.

## *Nonliquid Assets*

Homes owned by the beneficiaries made up a large part of their net worth and, next to cash, were the most frequently reported type of asset. Almost half (46 percent) of all the beneficiary groups owned their homes. Unless beneficiaries mortgaged or sold their homes—and few did so—their investments in their homes provided no means of meeting current or emergency expenses. Homeownership provides, however, a more flexible means of meeting housing costs than renting, particularly if the home is owned clear of mortgage. Every month rent must be paid. Taxes and insurance, and occasionally special assessments, must also be paid when due, but these items are generally less than the amount beneficiaries have to pay if they rent their living quarters. If the house is not to deteriorate in value it must be kept in repair, but if money is not at hand, repairs can wait. Many beneficiaries postponed from one year to the next the needed repairs. Failure to make necessary repairs reduces net worth, but because it is difficult to estimate such reductions, they were not taken into consideration in computing the amount of assets used to meet current living expenses during the survey year.

The proportion owning homes rose sharply from one-tenth in the net-worth interval of less than $1,000 to two-fifths in the $1,000–$2,999 interval, two-thirds in the $3,000–$4,999 interval, and to more than four-fifths in the net-worth intervals above $5,000.

Other kinds of nonliquid assets were seldom owned except by the wealthiest group. In all, about 12 percent of the beneficiary groups reported an equity in real estate other than their homes; 2 percent had investments in an unincorporated business or in a professional practice, such as that of a physician, dentist, or lawyer; and 1 percent had an interest in patents, copyrights, or an unincorporated business in which the beneficiary no longer worked. These nonliquid assets other than a home were a part of the holdings of about half the wealthiest beneficiary groups.

## *Liquid and Nonliquid Assets*

Of every 100 beneficiary groups holding some assets, 99 had a positive net worth; 1 in every 100 had some assets but had debts that equaled or exceeded in value that of the assets (table 4). Most of the beneficiaries in the latter group had only a small amount of cash, usually less than $500. Almost none of the beneficiary groups who owned homes or other real estate or had their own business had liabilities that exceeded the value of their assets.

Beneficiaries with a low positive net worth usually held only liquid assets. For example, four-fifths of the beneneciary groups worth $1–$999 and half of those worth $1,000–$2,999 had liquid assets only. The proportion holding only liquid assets decreased markedly as net worth increased. Only 1 in 10 of those worth $5,000 or more had all their capital in the form of liquid assets; at least two-thirds of this 10 percent were single beneficiaries. Usually the relatively wealthy beneficiaries with only liquid assets had large investments in corporate stocks and bonds.

Holdings valued at $5,000 or more were more likely than not to include both nonliquid assets, particularly a home, and liquid assets. Sixty percent of the beneficiaries worth between $5,000 and $10,000, and up to 80 percent of those worth $10,000 or more, owned a home and had cash or other liquid assets. A considerable number—roughly a fourth—of those worth $1,000–$9,999 had an equity in a home but no cash or other assets of any kind. More than three-fifths of these beneficiary groups were married couples.

The value of liquid assets mounted as net worth rose, not only for those groups who had only liquid assets, but also for many of those who were homeowners and for those who were not homeowners but had other real estate or an interest in an unincorporated business. Two-thirds of the homeowners whose total net worth was less than $3,000 had no liquid assets; for those homeowners worth $3,000–$9,999, the median amount of liquid assets was less than $500; for those worth $10,000–$24,999, it was between $2,000 and $3,000; and for those worth $25,000 or more, the median was $10,000 or more.

## *Homeownership*

The homes that the beneficiaries of old-age and survivors insurance in the 1951 survey reported owning ranged

**Table 3.—*Percentage distribution of beneficiary groups within each net-worth*[1] *interval at end of survey year, by type of liquid and nonliquid assets owned***

| Type of liquid and nonliquid assets | Total | Negative net worth | Zero net worth [2] | Positive net worth | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Total | Less than $1,000 | $1,000–2,999 | $3,000–4,999 | $5,000–9,999 | $10,000–24,999 | $25,000 or more |
| Number [3] | 17,591 | 711 | 3,995 | 12,885 | 2,372 | 1,890 | 1,554 | 3,147 | 3,025 | 897 |
| Percent with: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Liquid assets, total [4] | 60.9 | 16.5 | .2 | 82.2 | 88.1 | 72.9 | 68.8 | 76.4 | 91.5 | 97.8 |
| Cash and bank deposits | 55.4 | 15.0 | .2 | 74.6 | 76.1 | 66.9 | 62.4 | 69.4 | 84.7 | 92.4 |
| Government bonds | 26.9 | 2.1 | -------- | 36.6 | 23.2 | 27.0 | 28.1 | 34.3 | 51.2 | 65.2 |
| Stocks and other bonds | 9.8 | .7 | -------- | 13.4 | 2.3 | 6.2 | 7.0 | 9.0 | 20.4 | 60.8 |
| Loans to others | 4.6 | -------- | -------- | 6.2 | 2.0 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 5.0 | 9.2 | 20.7 |
| Nonliquid assets, total [4] | 50.4 | 3.9 | .1 | 68.6 | 18.5 | 48.9 | 72.6 | 87.0 | 92.1 | 90.9 |
| Owner-occupied home | 45.9 | .4 | -------- | 62.6 | 8.9 | 41.2 | 67.5 | 82.5 | 88.3 | 83.8 |
| Other real estate | 11.5 | 2.5 | -------- | 15.5 | 7.7 | 9.1 | 9.9 | 13.6 | 23.1 | 40.2 |
| Business interest [5] | 1.9 | .6 | -------- | 2.6 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 3.0 | 6.2 |
| Other [6] | .7 | .6 | -------- | .9 | .8 | .6 | .8 | .8 | 1.0 | 2.3 |

[1] Represents the difference between the value of the assets listed in the table and total reported debt.
[2] Includes a few beneficiary groups whose assets and liabilities balanced.
[3] Numbers and percentages in this table may differ slightly from those in other tables because the number reporting on different items varies.
[4] Total is less than the sum of the percentages since some owned more than one type of asset.
[5] Represents interest in a nonfarm unincorporated business or privately held corporation in which the beneficiary is the proprietor; the equity in a farm operated by the beneficiary, including stored grain, livestock, farm machinery; and the market value of a professional practice.
[6] Represents the interest in an unincorporated business not operated by the beneficiary; the value of farm equipment and livestock on a farm owned but not operated by the beneficiary; and the market value of patents, copyrights, and other unclassified assets.

from shacks, trailers, and houseboats to fine homes. A few beneficiaries owned the dwelling unit they occupied in an apartment house. The equity in an owner-occupied home represented the beneficiary's estimate of the market value minus the amount of the mortgage. No adjustments were made in the estimates given by the beneficiaries.

Considerably more of the married couples than of the single beneficiaries owned their homes. Two-thirds of the couples were homeowners, in contrast to one-fourth of the single men and women retired workers and two-fifths of the aged widows.

Four-fifths (82 percent) of the homes were clear of mortgage. The proportion of homeowners who had mortgages varied very little with beneficiary type, ranging only from 16 percent for the single-men homeowners to 18 percent for the married couples who owned their homes. The mortgage status was more closely related to the amount of equity in the home, with the proportion dropping slightly as the equity increased in value. Twenty-two percent of the homes in which the equities ranged from $1,000–$4,999 were mortgaged; this proportion dropped to 18 percent for homes in which the equities ranged from $5,000–$9,999, 13 percent when the range was $10,000–$24,999, and 10 percent for homes in which the equities amounted to $25,000 or more. When the equity was less than $1,000, 17 percent of the homes were mortgaged.

Homes were owned less frequently by beneficiaries in metropolitan areas than in smaller cities or towns, and the metropolitan homeowners were more likely to have mortgages, as is indicated by the following tabulation:

| Place of residence | Percent of beneficiary groups owning homes | Percent of homes mortgaged |
|---|---|---|
| Total | 46 | 18 |
| City: | | |
| 100,000 or more | 38 | 23 |
| 10,000–99,999 | 48 | 18 |
| 2,500–9,999 | 53 | 13 |
| Rural nonfarm | 61 | 9 |
| Farm | 60 | 14 |

This relationship between homeownership and size of city was characteristic of each beneficiary type. Fifty-six percent, for example, of the married couples living in cities of 100,000 or more were homeowners. This proportion increased to 67 percent for couples in cities or towns of 10,000–99,999; 72 percent for those in towns and villages of 2,500–9,999; 76 percent for those living in rural nonfarm areas; and 78 percent for those living on farms.

The median equity in the homes owned and occupied by the beneficiaries was about $6,900 (table 5). Forty percent of the homeowners had an equity of $5,000–$9,999, and for a fourth the equity was $10,000–$24,999. Two percent reported an equity in their homes amounting to $25,000 or more. At the opposite extreme were 3 percent with an equity of less than $1,000. The median equity rose consistently from about $600 when the net worth of homeowners was less than $1,000 to about $14,000 at the highest net-worth interval.

An equity of less than $1,000 usually represented a shack or hut in a rural area that was more often owned by a single man than by a single woman or married couple. In some other cases it was an investment in a trailer; for a few beneficiaries it represented an equity in a home owned jointly with others.

**Table 4.—*Percentage distribution of beneficiary groups within each net-worth[1] interval at end of survey year, by combination of liquid and nonliquid assets owned and value of liquid assets***

| Liquid and nonliquid assets | Total | Negative net worth | Zero net worth[2] | Positive net worth: Total | Less than $1,000 | $1,000–2,999 | $3,000–4,999 | $5,000–9,999 | $10,000–24,999 | $25,000 or more |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number[3] | 17,591 | 711 | 3,995 | 12,885 | 2,372 | 1,890 | 1,554 | 3,147 | 3,025 | 897 |
| Total percent | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No assets | 25.9 | 80.7 | 99.7 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Liquid assets only | 23.7 | 15.4 | .2 | 31.4 | 81.6 | 51.0 | 27.5 | 12.9 | 7.7 | 9.1 |
| Value of liquid assets: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than $500 | 8.0 | 14.3 | .2 | 10.1 | 55.0 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 500–999 | 3.5 | .7 | — | 4.7 | 25.8 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1,000–1,999 | 3.5 | .3 | (4) | 4.8 | .8 | 31.7 | — | — | — | — |
| 2,000–2,999 | 2.1 | — | — | 2.8 | (4) | 19.0 | — | — | — | — |
| 3,000–3,999 | 1.4 | — | — | 2.0 | — | .2 | 16.2 | — | — | — |
| 4,000–4,999 | 1.0 | — | — | 1.4 | — | (4) | 11.3 | — | — | — |
| 5,000–9,999 | 2.3 | — | — | 3.1 | — | — | .1 | 12.8 | — | — |
| 10,000 or more | 1.8 | — | — | 2.5 | — | — | — | .1 | 7.7 | 9.1 |
| Home and liquid assets | [5] 34.0 | — | (4) | 46.3 | 1.9 | 15.9 | 37.3 | 60.0 | 80.2 | 81.0 |
| Value of liquid assets: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than $500 | 8.6 | — | — | 11.9 | 1.9 | 11.1 | 20.2 | 20.1 | 10.1 | 1.6 |
| 500–999 | 4.4 | — | — | 6.0 | (4) | 2.7 | 8.3 | 11.0 | 7.6 | 1.8 |
| 1,000–1,999 | 5.4 | — | — | 7.5 | — | 1.9 | 6.4 | 13.9 | 11.9 | 2.9 |
| 2,000–2,999 | 3.4 | — | — | 4.6 | — | .2 | 1.8 | 7.8 | 9.9 | 2.0 |
| 3,000–3,999 | 2.2 | — | — | 2.9 | — | — | .6 | 3.8 | 7.9 | 1.7 |
| 4,000–4,999 | 1.6 | — | — | 2.2 | — | (4) | .1 | 1.8 | 6.9 | 1.8 |
| 5,000–9,999 | 4.2 | — | — | 5.9 | — | — | — | 1.5 | 19.9 | 11.0 |
| 10,000 or more | 4.1 | — | — | 5.5 | — | — | — | — | 6.2 | 58.2 |
| Home only | 10.5 | .4 | (4) | 14.4 | 6.7 | 23.1 | 27.5 | 20.2 | 6.2 | .7 |
| Home and other real estate or business interest only | 1.4 | — | — | 1.9 | .2 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 2.1 |
| Other real estate or business interest only | 1.3 | 2.3 | (4) | 1.7 | 5.1 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 1.0 | .3 | .1 |
| Other real estate and business interest and liquid assets | 3.3 | 1.2 | — | 4.3 | 4.5 | 6.0 | 3.9 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 6.9 |
| Value of liquid assets: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than $500 | .9 | 1.0 | — | 1.2 | 3.3 | 1.9 | 1.0 | .5 | .2 | .3 |
| 500–999 | .4 | .3 | — | .6 | 1.3 | .9 | .5 | .4 | .2 | .2 |
| 1,000–1,999 | .4 | — | — | .6 | — | 2.4 | .4 | .3 | .4 | .3 |
| 2,000–2,999 | .3 | — | — | .5 | — | .8 | .8 | .7 | .3 | .2 |
| 3,000–3,999 | .2 | — | — | .3 | — | — | .9 | .4 | .1 | .4 |
| 4,000–4,999 | .2 | — | — | .2 | — | — | .4 | .4 | .3 | .3 |
| 5,000–9,999 | .3 | — | — | .4 | — | — | — | .8 | .9 | .2 |
| 10,000 or more | .4 | — | — | .6 | — | — | — | — | 1.1 | 4.8 |

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.
[2] Includes a few beneficiary groups whose assets and liabilities balanced.
[3] Numbers and percentages in this table may differ slightly from those in other tables because the number reporting on different items varies.
[4] Less than one-tenth of 1 percent.
[5] Twenty-seven percent owned a home and had liquid assets; 7 percent owned both a home and other real estate or a business interest and had liquid assets.

Somewhat scattered information indicates that, of the 2 out of every 100 homes that were worth $25,000 or more, at least a few were multiple-unit dwellings owned by the beneficiary, who lived in one unit and rented the others.

The dollar value of the home equity comprised a substantial part of the aggregate net worth of all beneficiaries, including the nonhomeowners as well as the homeowners. It represented approximately $46 of each $100 in net worth for all the beneficiary groups combined; for the groups worth between $3,000 and $25,000, as much as $60–$70 of each $100 in net worth represented the equity in the home. Because larger proportions of couples than of single beneficiaries owned a home and reported a home as their only asset, equity in homes owned by couples amounted to $49 of each $100 of the net worth of all couples, while the ratio was lower—$41 of each $100—for all single beneficiaries. For all beneficiaries combined, the aggregate equity in homes formed the following percentage of the aggregate net worth in each specified net-worth interval:

| | |
|---|---|
| Total | 46 |
| Less than $1,000 | 16 |
| 1,000–2,999 | 43 |
| 3,000–4,999 | 61 |
| 5,000–9,999 | 70 |
| 10,000–24,999 | 60 |
| 25,000 or more | 23 |

Table 5.—*Percentage distribution of homeowner beneficiary groups within each positive net-worth*[1] *interval at end of survey year, by amount of equity*[2] *in home*

| Amount of equity in home | Positive net worth | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Less than $1,000 | $1,000–2,999 | $3,000–4,999 | $5,000–9,999 | $10,000–24,999 | $25,000 or more |
| Number of homeowners[3] | 8,047 | 207 | 777 | 1,047 | 2,591 | 2,675 | 750 |
| Total percent | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Less than $1,000 | 2.9 | 85.4 | 4.7 | .5 | .3 | .3 | .1 |
| 1,000–2,999 | 12.1 | 14.1 | 88.7 | 13.7 | 3.3 | 1.0 | .9 |
| 3,000–4,999 | 17.3 | .5 | 6.5 | 81.8 | 14.4 | 3.5 | 2.1 |
| 5,000–9,999 | 40.2 | ---------- | .1 | 4.0 | 80.7 | 36.0 | 18.1 |
| 10,000–24,999 | 25.8 | ---------- | ---------- | ---------- | 1.2 | 59.3 | 60.7 |
| 25,000 or more | 1.7 | ---------- | ---------- | ---------- | ---------- | ---------- | 18.0 |
| *Median equity* | *$6,861* | *$589* | *$2,028* | *$3,877* | *$6,000* | *$10,000* | *$14,000* |

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.
[2] Owner's estimate of current value of home, less any mortgage or other debt on home.
[3] Numbers and percentages in this table may differ slightly from those in other tables because the number reporting on different items varies.

## *Probable Accuracy of Beneficiary Reports*

Currency at home, not reserved for living expenses, and bank accounts were sometimes reported in rounded figures that probably represented an underreporting of the amounts actually held by the beneficiaries. In some instances, however, beneficiaries referred to their bank books and reported exact amounts. Some of these were among the poorer beneficiaries; others were better off.

Government bonds owned by beneficiaries were assumed to have been held 5 years and were valued accordingly, understating the amount some beneficiaries would have realized if they had sold their bonds and overstating the amount for others. It is likely that corporate stocks and bonds held by the wealthier beneficiaries were fairly accurately reported because many of these beneficiaries kept and referred to their records. Often the beneficiaries knew the current market values of their stocks and bonds; when necessary, the values were obtained by the Bureau staff.

In contrast to liquid assets, the market value of homes and other real estate was likely to be overvalued. In earlier surveys of old-age and survivors insurance beneficiaries, the assessed value of each home was obtained. The value was then adjusted on the basis of the ratio (obtained from local real estate boards) between the market values in a particular locality and the assessed value. A comparison of the beneficiaries' estimates of the market values of their homes with the market values obtained on the basis of the adjusted assessed values showed that the large majority overvalued their homes. Other real estate was likewise generally overvalued.

Because of the probable under- and over-reporting of assets, the conclusion may be drawn that the beneficiaries who reported no liquid assets or only low amounts probably had somewhat more than they reported. Liquid assets formed a large proportion of the total when net worth was less than $3,000. It is likely therefore that, as a group, beneficiaries in the net-worth levels of less than $3,000 were somewhat better off than they reported. The net worths between $3,000 and $25,000 may be approximately correct or possibly somewhat overstated. Equities in homes, which formed a relatively large proportion of the value of net worths within this range, were probably generally overvalued. The reports of beneficiaries worth $25,000 or more may be the most reliable of all groups.

It may be concluded, however, that if the current market value of all assets could have been correctly obtained, the net-worth pattern of the beneficiaries would not have changed much. Because of the wide intervals adopted, few would have been shifted from one net-worth interval to another.

## Life Insurance

Information on the face value of life insurance carried by the beneficiary groups was obtained in the survey, but the detailed information required to compute the cash-surrender value of the policies was not obtained. Life insurance included ordinary life, industrial, group, fraternal, and burial policies; purely accident policies and matured annuity policies were not included as life insurance.

Almost three-fourths of the couples (72 percent ) and about half the single beneficiaries (47 percent of the single men and 51 percent of the single women) carried life insurance. The large majority (67 percent) of single beneficiaries either had no life insurance or carried small industrial or burial policies with face values of less than $500. Less than a fourth of

**Table 6.—*Percentage distribution of beneficiary groups within each net-worth[1] interval at end of survey year, by face value of life insurance carried***

| Face value of life insurance | Total | Negative net worth | Zero net worth[2] | Positive net worth: Total | Less than $1,000 | $1,000–2,999 | $3,000–4,999 | $5,000–9,999 | $10,000–24,999 | $25,000 or more |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number[3] | 17,648 | 711 | 4,015 | 12,922 | 2,394 | 1,896 | 1,554 | 3,150 | 3,031 | 897 |
| Total percent | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No life insurance | 40.4 | 39.5 | 51.6 | 37.0 | 42.1 | 41.5 | 38.4 | 34.5 | 31.9 | 37.1 |
| Life insurance | 59.6 | 60.5 | 48.4 | 63.0 | 57.9 | 58.5 | 61.6 | 65.5 | 68.1 | 62.9 |
| Less than $500 | 12.6 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 10.6 | 16.3 | 14.2 | 14.0 | 9.9 | 5.7 | 1.3 |
| 500–999 | 14.6 | 17.7 | 15.3 | 14.3 | 17.4 | 16.1 | 16.8 | 15.7 | 11.0 | 3.7 |
| 1,000–1,999 | 17.4 | 14.5 | 10.9 | 19.6 | 16.0 | 17.5 | 19.0 | 23.5 | 22.3 | 11.8 |
| 2,000–2,999 | 6.8 | 5.8 | 3.0 | 8.0 | 4.5 | 6.1 | 5.9 | 8.4 | 12.2 | 8.7 |
| 3,000–3,999 | 3.0 | 2.5 | .6 | 3.8 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 6.1 | 6.6 |
| 4,000–4,999 | 1.2 | .4 | .2 | 1.6 | .7 | .5 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 2.8 | 3.2 |
| 5,000–9,999 | 2.5 | .8 | .2 | 3.4 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 5.9 | 11.6 |
| 10,000 or more | 1.4 | .7 | .1 | 1.8 | .2 | .4 | .1 | .7 | 1.9 | 15.9 |
| Median: | | | | | | | | | | |
| All groups | *$382* | *$292* | 0 | *$584* | *$245* | *$300* | *$414* | *$679* | *$1,063* | *$1,665* |
| Groups with life insurance | *1,146* | *845* | *$702* | *1,338* | *864* | *968* | *999* | *1,306* | *1,777* | *3,898* |

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.
[2] Includes a few beneficiary groups whose assets and liabilities balanced.
[3] Numbers and percentages in this table may differ slightly from those in other tables because the number reporting on different items varies.

the single men and a tenth of the single women carried policies of $1,000 or more. The married couples reported more life insurance, half of them carrying policies on either the husband or the wife, or on both, that totaled $1,000 or more. Only 7 percent of the couples, however, had as much as $5,000 in life insurance. Insurance reported by the couples was almost always carried by the husband, and in about half of the cases by the wife as well. The wife's insurance was generally lower than the husband's.

One in 7 of the beneficiary groups had zero or negative net worth, although they carried life insurance. Nearly half the beneficiaries with zero net worth and three-fifths of those with negative net worth reported life insurance (table 6). This proportion increased slowly but steadily as net worth increased, to 68 percent for the $10,000–$24,999 net-worth interval; it dropped slightly for those worth $25,000 or more. The median face value of the life insurance also increased as net worth increased.

The face value of life insurance carried by beneficiary groups in each net-worth class dropped from a ratio of $167 in life insurance for every $100 in net worth at the lowest ($1–$999) interval to $8 in life insurance for each $100 in net worth at the highest interval ($25,000 or more). The face value of life insurance for each $100 in net worth, by amount of positive net worth, is shown in the following tabulation.

| | |
|---|---|
| $1–999 | $167 |
| 1,000–2,999 | 39 |
| 3,000–4,999 | 19 |
| 5,000–9,999 | 15 |
| 10,000–24,999 | 11 |
| 25,000 or more | 8 |

## Automobile Ownership

One-fourth of the beneficiaries reported that they owned automobiles. This was a markedly lower proportion than was found among spending units included in the 1950 and 1953 surveys of consumer finances conducted by the Federal Reserve Board. In the 1950 survey, 55 percent of all spending units owned automobiles; in the 1953 survey, the percentage was 60. Among the retired group included in the 1954 survey of consumer finances, 45 percent owned automobiles.

In the 1951 beneficiary survey, the men owned cars more frequently than the women, and couples more often than the single men. Only 6 percent of the single women had automobiles, in contrast to 16 percent of the single men. A much larger proportion of the married couples—38 percent—were automobile owners.

Although some beneficiaries in all net-worth classes were car owners, the proportion rose consistently with increasing wealth from 5 percent for beneficiaries with zero net worth to two-thirds for those worth $25,000 or more, as is shown by the following tabulation.

| | |
|---|---|
| Total | 24 |
| Negative | 15 |
| Zero | 5 |
| $1–999 | 13 |
| 1,000–4,999 | 22 |
| 5,000–9,999 | 30 |
| 10,000–24,999 | 42 |
| 25,000 or more | 66 |

Many of the cars owned by these older people were old models of relatively little market value. A detailed check on the cars owned at the end of 1951 by the beneficiaries with negative or zero net worth, for example, showed that two-thirds were models that had been new in the 1930's, and a few dated back to the twenties; less than 5 percent were current models. Even among the wealthier beneficiaries—those worth $10,000 or more—who owned automobiles, only about a fifth owned 1950 or 1951 models; approximately 3 out of every 10 had models of the 1930's.

## Assets Used for Living Expenses

No data were available to show change in assets of beneficiaries since their retirement. Information obtained on the amount of assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the survey year permitted a computation to be made for each beneficiary group of the amount of the assets that were used and the debts that were incurred for current living. These data show that 1 in 4 of the beneficiary groups reduced their assets during the survey year to meet daily expenses of living, to pay some unusual bill—such as a doctor or hospital bill, or a bill for repairs on the home—or to purchase household furniture or equipment or an automobile. The amount of savings used for living expenses may be slightly overstated because some of the items purchased during the year, particularly an automobile or household equipment, had resale value.

Two percent of all the beneficiaries exhausted their liquid assets during the year. Of those who had liquid assets at the beginning of the year, 37

percent drew upon them to meet their living expenses. An occasional beneficiary had mortgaged or sold his home during the year to obtain cash to meet expenses, but most beneficiaries had savings that they used.

One beneficiary type was about as likely as another to use assets to meet current expenses. A fourth of the married couples, slightly more than a fourth of the aged widows, and approximately a fifth of the single men and women retired workers used assets.

The proportion of beneficiaries who used assets varied only slightly with the amount of their liquid asset holdings at the end of the survey year. The proportion using assets was smallest at both the lowest and highest levels of liquid asset holdings—33 percent among the groups with $1–$499 and $500–$999 and 34 percent among those with $10,000 or more. The percentage was higher for those with liquid assets of $1,000–$4,999 (37 percent) and with $5,000–$9,999 (39 percent). Four percent of the group with no assets at the end of the survey year had used assets during the year.

Relatively more homeowners (26 percent) than nonhomeowners (20 percent) used assets, probably because more of the homeowners had liquid assets to use. Forty-six percent of the homeowners had $1,000 or more in liquid assets at the end of the survey year in contrast to 26 percent of the beneficiaries who did not own their homes.

Beneficiary groups with relatively high money incomes were almost as likely to have dipped into their assets as were those with the lower incomes. A fourth of the beneficiary groups in each money income class—up to $1,800—reported using assets. The proportion dropped to 18 percent at the $2,400-or-more income level.

Half the 4,050 beneficiaries who drew on their assets to meet current living expenses used less than $340. One-sixth used less than $100. Almost 3 out of every 10 (28 percent) using assets, however, had depleted their assets by $600 or more; a sixth, by $1,000 or more. The following tabulation distributes the beneficiary groups who used assets by the amount used.

| *Amount of assets used* | *Percentage distribution* |
|---|---|
| Total | 100 |
| Less than $100 | 16 |
| 100–199 | 16 |
| 200–299 | 14 |
| 300–399 | 10 |
| 400–499 | 7 |
| 500–599 | 8 |
| 600–999 | 12 |
| 1,000 or more | 16 |

Four percent of all the beneficiaries used at least $1,000 in assets during the survey year. The proportion using that amount or more increased markedly with the amount of liquid assets held at the end of the year. A total of $1,000 or more was spent by 0.5 percent of those with no assets remaining at the end of the survey year, by 2 percent of those with assets of $1–$999, by 5 percent of those with $1,000–$4,999, by 11 percent with $5,000–$9,999, and by 16 percent with assets of $10,000 or more.

Married couples who drew on their assets used more of them than the single beneficiaries. For all types of beneficiary, the median value of the assets used was $342. The median for married couples was $380; for single men, it was $328; for single women, $265, and for aged widows, $215.

The married couples, of course, had to meet the needs of two persons. At least as many of the spouses as of the old-age beneficiaries, for example, required hospital care during the survey year, and medical care bills accounted for an important proportion of the large amounts used. Moreover, the couples had more liquid assets to use than the single beneficiaries.

## Debts Incurred

Some beneficiaries not only used assets but went in debt to buy goods or services. During the survey year, 8 out of every 100 beneficiary groups incurred debts. Relatively more couples (10 percent) than single beneficiaries went into debt. These beneficiaries borrowed on life insurance or other securities or borrowed without security, they incurred medical or hospital bills, or they had balances due on installment purchases, and so forth. Taking out a mortgage on a home or increasing the mortgage was not included among debts incurred for purposes of this study. The amount of a mortgage is taken into account only as it affects the value of the equity in the home; an increase in a mortgage during the survey year therefore resulted in a decrease in the equity in the home and is treated as an asset used.

The proportion who incurred debts was small at every positive net-worth interval. The proportion increased slightly, from 7 percent at the $1–$999 interval to 9 percent at the $3,000–$4,999 level, and then decreased steadily to 4 percent at the highest net-worth level. Half the beneficiaries with a negative net worth had incurred some or all of their indebtedness during the survey year.

The debts incurred by most of the beneficiaries during the survey year were small. For almost half of those who went into debt, the amount of the indebtedness was less than $100; for more than two-thirds, it was less than $200. Only 11 percent contracted debts amounting to $500 or more, and only 4 percent, $1,000 or more. Large debts frequently represented medical bills, but some also represented balances due on automobiles or household equipment purchased during the survey year on the installment plan. In some of these cases, the beneficiaries had sufficient liquid assets to meet the bills but preferred spreading the payments over a period of time to using their assets.

## Conclusions

The large proportion of the beneficiaries studied in 1951 who had zero or negative net worth or whose net worth was small is not surprising in view of their low earnings before they became entitled to benefits, their low retirement income, the length of time that had elapsed since their retirement, and their need for medical care.

Some indication of the level of earnings of the beneficiaries before they retired is given by the amount of their old-age benefits. About 60 percent of the retired-worker beneficiaries in the survey received old-age benefits of less than $50 a month. These benefits were based on average monthly wages ranging from $8 to $120.

In many instances the average

(*Continued on page 17*)

# *The Federal Credit Union System: A Legislative History*

by John T. Croteau*

***In the years since the adoption of the Federal Credit Union Act in 1934, many amendments have been proposed, hearings and discussions have been held, and some amending legislation has been passed. The development of the act is reviewed in the following pages.***

THE credit union system in the United States had its beginning long before the adoption of the Federal legislation.[1] Credit unions first acquired legal status in 1909, when the Massachusetts Legislature passed a law providing for the chartering and organization of credit unions.

## The 1934 Law

### *Legislative History*

Twenty-four years later—on May 11, 1933—Senator Sheppard, of Texas, introduced three bills designed to set up a Federal credit union system. The first, S. 1639, was to establish a system of Federal credit unions and statewide central credit unions under Federal supervision; S. 1640 was an amendment to the Federal Reserve Act under which Federal reserve banks would be permitted to receive deposits from credit unions; and S. 1641 would authorize the postal savings system to accept credit union deposits.

On June 1, hearings were opened before a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency. The first session of the Seventy-third Congress ended with the bills resting within the Committee.

On March 27, 1934, the Committee reported S. 1639 favorably, with one amendment—deletion of the provision exempting Federal credit unions (but not their members) from all Federal taxation except taxes upon real property. Credit unions roused little interest, however, in a Congress concerned with the depression and with emergency legislation. Two attempts were made to bring up the bill on the consent calendar, but it was passed over.

Meanwhile it was imperative to find an agency to administer the act. The Federal Reserve Board and the Treasury Department, logical agencies for the purpose, did not believe that they should administer such an act. The Farm Credit Administration expressed an interest in the bill, however, and a group from that agency, with the help of other officials, secured Presidential endorsement.

Senator Sheppard brought in a series of amendments that would place the program under the jurisdiction of the Banks for Cooperatives, within the Farm Credit Administration. These amendments were adopted, and on May 10, 1934, the Senate, without debate, approved the bill.

To obtain Presidential approval, it was necessary to delete the second part of the bill, which had provided for the incorporation of statewide central credit unions. The other provisions were unchanged when, on June 15, the Chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Currency submitted a unanimous report favoring the bill and asked that the House consider it. Only 30 minutes were allowed for debate, and no one spoke in opposition. When the formal vote was taken, there were 180 ayes and 2 noes.

The legislation as passed by the House was in the form of an amendment, which struck out the entire Senate bill after the enacting clause and substituted a redrafted bill. In the revision, control was taken from the Banks for Cooperatives, and a Federal credit union section was set up as a separate unit in the Farm Credit Administration. The revised bill was passed by the Senate by unanimous consent 2 days before the close of the session. It was signed by the President on June 26, 1934, and became Public Law No. 467.

### *Provisions of the Law*

A brief summary of the provisions of the original Federal Credit Union Act may serve as a point of reference for the subsequent amendments. After section 1 (the citation), section 2 defined a Federal credit union as "a cooperative association organized . . . for the purpose of promoting thrift among its members and creating a source of credit for provident or productive purposes." Section 3 set out the method by which any seven or more natural persons become incorporated, and section 4 determined the procedure for investigation and approval of the charter. Section 5 established organization and supervision fees. Section 6 required Federal supervision and examination; it established the principle that: "The Governor [of the Farm Credit Administration] shall fix a scale of examination fees designed, as far as is practicable, so that in each case the fee to be paid shall equal the expense of such examination."

Section 7 itemized the powers of a Federal credit union. Besides stating the general powers of a corporation, subsections defined the essential operations of these new institutions:

(5) To make loans with maturities not exceeding two years to its members for provident or productive purposes upon such terms and conditions as this Act and the by-laws provide and as the credit committee may approve, at rates of interest not exceeding 1 per centum per month on unpaid balances (inclusive of all charges incident to making the loan): *Provided*, that no loans to a director, officer, or member of a committee shall exceed the amount of his holdings in the Federal credit union as represented

* Professor of Economics, University of Notre Dame.

[1] See Erdis W. Smith, "Federal Credit Unions: Origin and Development," *Social Security Bulletin*, November 1955.

by shares thereof. No director, officer, or committee member shall endorse for borrowers. A borrower may repay his loan, prior to maturity, in whole or in part on any business day.

(6) To receive from its members payments on shares.

(7) To invest its funds (a) in loans exclusively to members; (b) in obligations of the United States of America, or securities fully guaranteed as to principal and interest thereby.

(8) To make deposits in national banks and in State banks, trust companies, and mutual savings banks operating in accordance with the laws of the State in which the Federal credit union does business.

(9) To borrow (from any source) in an aggregate amount not exceeding 50 per centum of its paid-in and unimpaired capital and surplus. . . .

The remaining three subsections gave the credit unions power to fine members, to enforce a lien upon shares in order to collect delinquent loans, and to exercise incidental powers.

Section 8 provided for a standard set of bylaws. Section 9 limited Federal credit union membership "to groups having a common bond of occupation or association, or to groups within a well-defined neighborhood, community, or rural district." The fiscal year of a Federal credit union would end on December 31, according to section 10, and the annual meeting was to be held in January. The cooperative principle of "one-man, one-vote" was to be followed, and no proxy voting would be allowed in elections. Section 11 set up the familiar organization of a board of directors, which would elect its own officers, a credit committee to pass on loan applications, and a supervisory committee to audit the books regularly.

Section 12 stated that "all entrance fees and fines provided by the bylaws and 20 per centum of the net earnings of each year, before the declaration of any dividends, shall be set aside . . . as a reserve fund against possible bad loans." Section 13 provided for the declaration of dividends, section 14 for the expulsion and withdrawal of members, and section 15 for the accounts of minors or trust accounts.

Sections 16-20 were confined to technical matters. Section 16 gave the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration certain rather broad powers. He was empowered "to prescribe rules and regulations for the administration of this Act (including, but not by way of limitation, the merger, consolidation, and/or dissolution of corporations organized under this chapter)." Apparently to answer possible objections to the constitutionality of the statute, section 17 was inserted; it provided that a Federal credit union "shall act as fiscal agent of the United States and shall perform such services as the Secretary of the Treasury may require." Section 18 concerned taxation.

Nothing herein contained shall prevent the shares of stock in any Federal credit union organized hereunder from being included in the valuation of the personal property of the owners or holders of such shares in assessing taxes imposed by authority of the State in which the Federal credit union is located or shall prevent the taxation of any Federal credit union or its property by authority of such State in the manner and not to exceed the rate imposed upon domestic banking corporations.

Section 19 provided for the appropriation of $50,000 for administration. Finally, section 20 provided that, if part of the act was held to be invalid, the remainder would not be affected. The final clause of section 20 stated: "The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act or any part thereof, or any charter issued pursuant to the provisions of the Act, is expressly reserved."

There was little that was new in the Federal Credit Union Act of 1934. With the exception of section 17, this was the traditional credit union act, going back to the Massachusetts law of 1909.

The critics of the Massachusetts law had had some influence on Federal legislation at the time the Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916 was passed, since that law was modeled after the Raffeisen plan, as they advocated. They had visualized a system of cooperative banks—people's banks—integrated in central banks and connected with the money market. Model legislation sponsored by the Credit Union National Extension Bureau aimed merely to set up independent units designed to provide workers with savings facilities and to take care of their need for consumption credit. Any system that developed would be tied together by educational or sympathetic bonds, rather than by financial integration. While the sponsors of the original Federal Credit Union Act, in providing for statewide central credit unions, had attempted to break new ground, they were forced to accept the limitations of the model act.

The legislative history of Federal credit unions has thus been a struggle between two concepts. Under one a legal base for a system of cooperative credit would be developed that would give broad freedom to management and that would integrate vertically the credit unions into a regional or even a national structure of cooperative consumer finance. The other concept is of the Federal credit union as an essentially independent financial unit, with management rather closely hemmed in by detailed legal regulations, that is integrated horizontally—with an educational or promotional, rather than a financial basis—into various forms of State league organizations that are, in turn, united in the Credit Union National Association.

## Amendments to the 1934 Act

Since the adoption of the Federal Credit Union Act, not a session of Congress has passed without attempts at amending it. Eleven laws amending or adding to the original act were adopted from 1936 to 1955. A twelfth, amending the District of Columbia Credit Union Act, affects the supervisory powers of the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions.

### *Prewar Activity*

During the Seventy-fourth Congress, Senator Sheppard introduced three amendments to the Federal Credit Union Act. One dealt with exemption from taxation, the second with limitation of membership, and the third with investment of credit union funds in central credit unions. He also proposed a bill that passed the Senate; it provided that a Federal credit union might invest "in loans to other credit unions in the total

amount not exceeding 25 per centum of its paid-in and unimpaired capital and surplus." The House of Representatives did not act on any of these bills.

In the Seventy-fifth Congress, Senator Sheppard brought back these proposals with a few additional ones.

In the hearings held on the proposed legislation, the Farm Credit Administration—the agency in charge of Federal credit unions from 1934 to 1942—endorsed three proposed amendments: to exempt Federal credit unions from all taxes except those upon real property and tangible personal property; to permit the Farm Credit Administration to conduct research on the problems that persons of small means have in obtaining credit at reasonable rates of interest; and to provide space in Federal buildings for employees' credit unions. It opposed an amend-

*Summary of changes in the Federal Credit Union Act, 1934–55*

| Provision | Original act of 1934 [1] | Changes | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1937 | 1940 | 1942 | 1946 | 1948 | 1949 | 1952 | 1954 |
| Supervising agency | Farm Credit Administration (Governor). | | | Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.[2] | | Bureau established in Federal Security Agency.[3] | | | |
| Supervision fee | $10 a year. | | | | | | | Graduated scale for Federal credit unions with assets of more than $34,000.[4] | |
| Examinations | Audit reports of practicing public accountants accepted from Federal credit unions with assets of less than $25,000. | Permissible exception for Federal credit unions with assets of less than $25,000 eliminated.[5] | | | | | | | |
| Examination fee | Fee scale to be fixed by Governor to cover expense of examination. | Ability of Federal credit union to pay to be considered.[5] | | | | | | | |
| Loans: Unsecured | Not to exceed $50. | | Not to exceed $100.[6] | | Not to exceed $300.[7] | | Not to exceed $400.[8] | | |
| Secured | Not to exceed $200, or 10% of paid-in and unimpaired capital and surplus to a member. | | | | | | | | |
| Maturity | Not to exceed 2 years. | | | | | | Not to exceed 3 years.[8] | | |
| Investments | Loans to members, obligations of U. S. Government, or securities fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by U. S. Government. | Loans to other credit unions (not to exceed 25% of capital and surplus) and shares of Federal savings and loan associations.[5] | | | | | | Shares or accounts of other institutions insured by Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation.[9] | |
| Reserves | Entrance fees, fines, and 20% of net earnings before declaration of dividend. | | | | | | Transfer of funds to reserve discontinued when reserve equals 10% of total shares. Director may require special reserves.[8] | | |
| Area covered | United States and Territories. | | | | Extension to Panama Canal Zone.[7] | | | Extension to Virgin Islands.[10] | Bureau to examine and supervise District of Columbia credit unions.[11] |

See footnotes at end of table.

ment that dealt with organization fees and one permitting the organization of central credit unions. It suggested that another bill be changed to retain the provision of the original act whereby the examination fees would be fixed by the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration to cover the expense of the examination, but to include the provision that the Governor should give due consideration "to the ability of Federal credit unions to pay such fees." Another recommendation was for the elimination of the authorization to accept, from credit unions having assets of less than $25,000, the audit report of a practicing accountant in place of a report of a Federal examiner. The Farm Credit Administration also suggested—possibly to avoid the central credit union amendment—that a Federal credit union be permitted to lend to other credit unions "in the total amount not exceeding 25 percent of its paid-in and unimpaired capital and surplus" and "to invest in shares or accounts of Federal savings and loan associations."

The amendments, as consolidated

***Summary of changes in the Federal Credit Union Act, 1934–55*—Continued**

| Provision | Original act of 1934 [1] | Changes | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1937 | 1940 | 1942 | 1946 | 1948 | 1949 | 1952 | 1954 |
| Interest rate | Not to exceed 1% a month on unpaid balance. | | | | Penalty for excessive interest.[7] | | | | Refund to members permitted.[12] |
| Membership | Persons and organizations. | | | | Shares in joint tenancy.[7] | | | | |
| Bonding | Board of directors fixes amount of surety bonds. | | | | "Sufficient" surety; payment of premiums by credit unions authorized.[7] | | | | Authority of Director specified.[13] |
| Passbook | Audit required. | | | | "Passbook" defined.[7] | | | | |
| Credit committee | Meetings at least once a month on notice from treasurer. | | | | Notice from treasurer not required.[7] | | | | |
| Liquidation | General authority of Governor in involuntary liquidations expressed generally. | | | | Involuntary liquidation procedure detailed.[7] | | | | |
| Taxation | State may tax Federal credit unions as it does domestic banking corporations. | Exempted from all taxation except on real and personal property.[5] | | | | | | | |
| Other: | | | | | | | | | |
| Space in Federal buildings | | Office space for employee credit unions may be provided free.[14] | | | | | | | |
| Research and studies | | Governor authorized to conduct research in cooperative thrift and credit.[5] | | | | | | | |
| Fair labor practices | | Employer provision of facilities not a violation of the National Labor Relations Act.[5] | | | | | | | |
| Oaths | | | | | | | | | Bureau officials may administer oaths.[12] |

[1] P. L. 467, 74th Cong.
[2] Executive Order 9148, Apr. 27, 1942; transfer made permanent by Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1947.
[3] P. L. 813, 80th Cong.
[4] P. L. 322, 82d Cong.
[5] P. L. 416, 75th Cong.
[6] P. L. 630, 76th Cong.
[7] P. L. 574, 79th Cong.
[8] P. L. 376, 81st Cong.
[9] P. L. 337, 82d Cong.
[10] P. L. 329, 82d Cong.
[11] P. L. 576, 83d Cong.
[12] P. L. 454, 83d Cong.
[13] P. L. 656, 83d Cong.
[14] P. L. 197, 75th Cong.

in S. 2675, were passed by both Houses and became Public Law No. 416, approved December 6, 1937. An amendment was added, when the bill was on the floor of the House, to permit employer provision of facilities for the operations of a Federal credit union without violation of the National Labor Relations Act.

Most of the hearings had been devoted to a bill (H.R. 6287) to permit Federal credit unions to occupy space, rent-free, in Government buildings, which was taken up as emergency legislation. The Comptroller General's office had raised the question. There were then about 600 credit unions among Federal employee groups. To forbid credit unions to operate in Federal buildings would have given the movement a serious blow. The Credit Union National Association convinced the Committee on Banking and Currency of the importance of this matter, and the bill became Public Law No. 197 on July 9, 1937.

In this session also a bill was introduced to transfer jurisdiction over the District of Columbia credit unions to the Farm Credit Administration, and a similar bill was introduced in 1941. Neither of these bills got as far as a hearing.

## *Defense and War Period*

During the next three sessions Congress was immersed in the problems of defense and war, and while a number of amendments to the Federal Credit Union Act were introduced, few advanced even to a subcommittee hearing. Only one amendment, which became Public Law No. 630 (approved June 15, 1940), was adopted by the Seventy-sixth Congress. The bill (S. 2568), as originally presented, sought to raise the limit on unsecured loans from $50 to $300. An amendment in committee raised the limit to only $100. The restriction in the original act was retained, however, that "no loan shall be made to any member in excess of $200 or 10 per centum of the Federal credit union's paid-in and unimpaired capital and surplus, whichever is greater."

Several other amendments were introduced during the Seventy-sixth Congress; no action was taken on them. One (S. 4230) was a lengthy bill intended to clarify a number of sections in the act. It was reintroduced in the next session but again failed of enactment.

The most important action taken during the Seventy-seventh Congress that affected Federal credit unions was their transfer by Executive order from the jurisdiction of the Farm Credit Administration to that of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. From May 16, 1942, to July 29, 1948, they remained under the Corporation's jurisdiction. No Federal credit union legislation was passed by that Congress, although again a number of bills were introduced.

The Seventy-eighth Congress was a wartime Congress. Credit union legislation obviously could expect little consideration. Few amendments were introduced, and none was even reported out of committee. These were difficult years for credit unions; liquidations exceeded new charters, and the number of operating credit unions was decreasing.

Only one credit union proposal—a bill endorsed by the Credit Union National Association and presented by Representative Jerry Voorhis—occupied the attention of the Seventy-ninth Congress. Most of its provisions had been presented in 1940 in S. 4230 and again in 1941. In the House hearing it was superseded by another bill that contained the same material but incorporated certain rewording suggested by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. This bill provided for (1) a specific penalty—the refund of the entire amount of interest paid —for charging excessive interest on a credit union loan; (2) a clarifying clause for issuing shares in joint tenancy; (3) a clarifying clause regarding the bonding of employees; (4) removal of the requirement that notices be sent "by the treasurer"; (5) raising the unsecured loan limit to $300; (6) extending the use of the term "passbook"; and (7) extending the operations of Federal credit unions to the Panama Canal Zone. On the recommendation of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, a section was added after the Senate hearings that amended section 16(b) of the act and gave the administrator definite power to handle the many problems resulting from involuntary liquidations. A letter from the American Bankers Association, objecting to an increase in the unsecured loan limit and also to the tax-exempt status of Federal credit unions, was read into the hearings. The bill passed the Senate on July 17, the House on July 19, and was approved on July 31, 1946, when it became Public Law No. 574.

Representative Voorhis introduced at the same session a bill to permit Federal credit unions "to enter into contracts for group insurance covering the lives of its members." The matter was settled administratively, however, because the supervisory agency, which had forbidden Federal credit unions to take group insurance on the lives of borrowers and members, reconsidered and ruled that such insurance—the so-called "life savings insurance"—could be authorized by a credit union board of directors.

Early in the Eightieth Congress, the President, in his Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1947, made permanent the transfer of Federal credit unions to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Administration by the Corporation had been looked upon by most as a temporary war measure. Although credit unions had been experiencing difficulties with low earnings and a high liquidation rate, at the time of the 1946 hearings neither the representative of the Corporation's Federal credit union section nor the representative of the Credit Union National Association had raised the issue of administration. Apparently all recognized that the difficulties that beset the credit unions were a by-product of the war.

The permanent transfer, however, did not meet the approval of either the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Credit Union National Association. The former, a self-supporting agency, was incurring a loss of about $200,000 a year in its credit union activities. The Credit Union National Association indicated that it wanted something more than an impartial supervisory and examination service.

Like the credit unions, the social security programs were designed to promote the economic security of the family and the individual; the thought therefore developed that the Federal Security Agency (which had

the responsibility for administering the Social Security Act) would be an appropriate agency to administer the Federal Credit Union Act. Through Senator Raymond E. Baldwin a bill (S. 2225) was accordingly introduced that provided for transferring the administration of Federal credit unions to the Federal Security Agency[2] and reimbursing the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for the outlays it had incurred in credit union administration. The personnel and property of the credit union section would be transferred to the Federal Security Agency, and the section raised to the status of a bureau—the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions.

In the Senate hearings that started March 4, 1948, not only the transfer of jurisdiction but the whole record and cost of the program were explored. An excerpt from a letter from the Comptroller General of the United States was read into the hearings. Referring to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, he said:

> The Corporation has the extraneous function of supervising and examining Federal credit unions . . . We respectfully suggest that this function should not continue to be supervised by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation since it has no relation to the Corporation's general functions and since it is desirable that the Corporation's directors should devote all of their attention to the highly important objectives of the Corporation.

A letter from the Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation called attention to this statement and added:

> We are of the opinion that, in order to avoid any possibility of criticism or suggestion of conflicting interests, the supervision of Federal credit unions be lodged in another agency, such as the Federal Security Agency. Accordingly, we have no objection to the enactment of S. 2225.

The representative of the Credit Union National Association also pressed for a change in administrative agency. He presented a letter from the Administrator of the Federal Security Agency, which indicated willingness to administer the program if it were placed in that agency. The matter of expense to the Government was stressed in this hearing, and it was agreed that the problem could best be handled by placing the Federal credit unions permanently in an agency where the annual appropriations are made by Congress. S. 2225 was reported favorably, passed the House on June 15 and the Senate the following day, and was approved and enrolled as Public Law No. 813 on June 29, 1948. Credit union activities, when transferred to the Federal Security Agency, were placed in the Social Security Administration.

The Eightieth Congress also saw the introduction of a bill providing for the insurance by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation of membership share balances in Federal credit unions.

In the Eighty-first Congress one credit union bill (H.R. 6185) was passed, and no hearings were held. Of the other bills introduced, one was on the insurance of shares and the other on investments in shares or accounts of a State-chartered institution. Neither was reported out of committee.

The legislative effort of the session related to the proposals in a bill introduced by Representative Patman, acting in behalf of the Credit Union National Association. It would have removed entirely the 2-year limitation on loans; permitted Federal credit unions to invest funds "in shares of central credit unions"; authorized annual meetings to be held in January, February, or March; raised the unsecured loan limit to $500, with a technical rewording of the section; and placed a ceiling of 10 percent of members' shares as the limit for a reserve fund.

After study of this bill by the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions, in September identical bills, S. 2560 and H.R. 6185, were introduced. These bills dropped the controversial matter of investment in central credit unions and the less important extension of time for the annual meeting; they extended the maturity of loans from 2 to 3 years, raised the limit on unsecured loans from $300 to $400, and placed a ceiling on reserves of 10 percent of the total amount of members' shareholdings but—under a new provision—gave the Director of the Bureau power to require special reserves "to protect the interests of shareholders . . . when found by the director to be necessary for that purpose."

This version was endorsed by the Federal Security Agency, and both the Senate and House committees reported the bill favorably. H.R. 6185 passed the House on October 13, passed the Senate (as an amendment to the Senate bill) on October 17, and was approved as Public Law No. 376 on October 25, 1949.

In September 1950 the provisions of the Social Security Act became applicable to employees of Federal credit unions, under the 1950 amendments to the Social Security Act.

The Eighty-second Congress saw 12 amendments to the Federal Credit Union Act proposed and three—on which there was no controversy—enacted into law. The most important amendment that was adopted concerned fees paid to the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions for supervisory services. In June 1950 the Federal Security Agency had sent Congress the draft of a proposed bill, explaining that its principal purpose was "to increase the schedule of supervision fees to be paid by Federal credit unions having assets in excess of $40,000 and thereby provide the basis whereby the Federal credit union system can become self-supporting (so far as Government supervision is concerned) within eight or ten years." S. 2447 and its companion bill H.R. 6103, which were introduced in the Eighty-second Congress, proposed a more complicated schedule of supervisory fees that was intended to make the Bureau financially independent by 1954 or 1955. The proposed changes were supported by both the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions and the Credit Union National Association. S. 2447, which became Public Law No. 322, was reported favorably by the Senate and the House Committees on Banking and Currency, was enacted, and was approved April 17, 1952.

This amendment exempted credit unions from fees during the year in which a charter is issued or the year of final distribution in a liquidation.

[2] The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, beginning April 11, 1953.

Starting with 1952, the maximum fee for those with total assets of $500,000 or less became 30 cents per $1,000; with $500,001-$1,000,000: $150 plus 25 cents per $1,000 in excess of $500,000; with $1,000,001-$2,000,000: $275 plus 20 cents per $1,000 in excess of $1,000,000; with $2,000,001-$5,000,000: $475 plus 15 cents per $1,000 in excess of $2,000,000; and for those with total assets of more than $5,000,000, it became $925 plus 10 cents per $1,000 in excess of $5,000,000.

A minor amendment, H.R. 6101, which extended the provisions of the Federal Credit Union Act to the Virgin Islands, became law May 8, 1952 (Public Law No. 329). Also enacted was H.R. 2608, which provided that Federal credit unions could extend their investments to shares or accounts of institutions, the accounts of which are insured by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. It was approved May 13, 1952 (Public Law No. 337).

The controversy of the Eighty-second Congress centered around S. 1330, the companion bill to H.R. 3459, which Representative Patman had introduced at the request of the Credit Union National Association. This bill would (1) permit, with safeguards, loans to officers and committeemen; (2) permit credit unions to invest in shares of central credit unions; (3) allow patronage dividends, or refunds of interest to borrowers; and (4) authorize employees of the Bureau to administer oaths and to take affidavits. The last two provisions made no essential change in the law, and there was general agreement on their inclusion. On the first two provisions, there was substantial disagreement between the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions and the Credit Union National Association. Some of these controversial provisions were reintroduced in the next session.

During the hearings held in January 1952, the Bureau firmly opposed making loans, beyond the amount held on shares, to credit union officials. The opposition was based on what may be called a legislation-contract theory; in other words, the Bureau believed that credit union organizers in their dealings with management enter into a quasi-contract based on the provisions of the Federal Credit Union Act. To change that act in its essentials would therefore be, in effect, a violation of this implied contract. In his testimony the Director pointed out that certain employers probably have permitted credit unions to be established in their plants on the grounds that the law contained the safeguard that officers, directors, and committeemen could not borrow. This objection was repeated in hearings held at the next session, and it was effective.

In connection with the central credit union provision, the Bureau's Director stated that, while the Bureau was not opposed to such credit unions, it did not want the particular amendment offered in S. 1330. It preferred to have a central credit union system set up by separate legislation "in an organized and formal way."

Two bills attacking the tax-exempt status of Federal credit unions were also introduced in the Eighty-second Congress. They were not successful, and Federal credit unions still enjoy the status conferred by the amendment of 1937. Another bill on which no action was taken would have frozen examination fees at the then current rate of $56 a day. Finally, four bills were introduced to provide for insurance of members' shareholdings, but they were not acted upon. One would have provided insurance by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; two through the Federal Savings and Loan Corporation; and the fourth, the Eberharter bill, would have set up a fund for share insurance to be administered by the Director of the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions.

Four bills to provide insurance on member shareholdings were also introduced in the Eighty-third Congress: three of them would have provided such insurance through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; the fourth was the reintroduced Eberharter bill. A bill to permit a Federal credit union to serve as executor or administrator of small estates was also introduced. None came out of committee.

The first session of the Eighty-third Congress centered its attention on two pieces of legislation in which the noncontroversial and the controversial amendments proposed in previous sessions were separated: S. 1665, and its companion bill H.R. 2868, contained the generally acceptable amendments concerning patronage refunds and the power of officers of the Bureau to administer oaths; S. 1666 and H.R. 2867 contained the debatable items of loans to credit union officials, the freezing of examination fees, and the extension of maturity of loans from 3 years to 5. Hearings were held on the Senate bills in the spring of 1953.

The Bureau suggested a technical change in the provision in S. 1665 that would permit patronage dividends; and the precaution was added that interest refunds "to members of record at the close of business on December 31" be paid "subject to such regulations as may be issued by the Director." This change and another unimportant technical amendment were approved by the Credit Union National Association, and the subcommittee reported the bill favorably. It was also reported favorably by the full Committee on Banking and Currency. S. 1665 was enacted in the second session of the Eighty-third Congress and was approved on June 30, 1954 (Public Law No. 454).

At the hearings on S. 1666, the representative of the Credit Union National Association was questioned closely about the proposed amendments. The Director of the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions opposed the bill. The basis of his opposition was consistently the same as in the 1952 hearings—that the legislation-contract theory of the nature and scope of the Federal credit unions precluded any substantial change in the provisions of the original Federal Credit Union Act. A letter from the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare stated the position of the Department on the question of loans to directors: "The present limitation . . . has frequently been recognized as an important consideration in making a decision to organize a Federal credit union and in enlisting full support from the employer or sponsoring group."

The opposition to the freezing of examination fees was a more practical matter, having in view the objectives of the movement. The Depart-

ment stated: "Since it is contemplated that the Federal credit union program will become a self-sustaining one beginning with the fiscal year 1954 it is vital that the authority to assess adequate fees remain unimpaired."

The objection to an extension of loan maturities rested in a concept of the nature of the Federal credit union as a specialized institution, rigidly restricted to caring for the short-term credit needs of the American people. S. 1666 was disapproved by the Committee, and its companion bill was also dropped.

In the second session of the Eighty-third Congress, Representative Talle introduced H. R. 9236. This bill required the board of directors of a Federal credit union to fix the amount and character of surety bonds in compliance with regulations prescribed by the Director of the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions and also gave the Director power to regulate bonding requirements. The bonding of credit union officials had been under the jurisdiction of the board of directors of the individual credit union. Under the bill, which became Public Law No. 656 on August 24, 1954, the board of directors still retains the responsibility but must operate according to Bureau regulations.

During the same session hearings were held in both Houses on S. 3683, a bill sponsored by the District of Columbia Credit Union League and introduced by Senator Case. This bill transferred from the Comptroller of the Currency to the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions the supervision and examination of District-chartered credit unions and made applicable for them the scale of fees paid by Federal credit unions. The bill was approved August 10, 1954 (Public Law No. 576).

S. 2890, providing for a regional credit union system, was introduced February 3, 1954; no action was taken.

The 1955 session of the Eighty-fourth Congress saw the introduction of only two credit union bills—companion bills S. 1641 and H. R. 5258. They provided for amending section 7 to permit a Federal credit union to invest "in shares of other credit unions in the total amount not exceeding 10 per centum of its paid-in and unimpaired capital and surplus." The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare filed an unfavorable report with the congressional committees on these bills. No hearings were held, nor was any action taken on them during the first session of the Eighty-fourth Congress.

The table summarizes the amendments to the Federal Credit Union Act through 1954. As the table shows, the amendments have served for the most part to clarify administration and to keep pace with inflation. The Federal credit union has essentially the same nature and scope as it did under the act of 1934; it is an independent, local society designed to operate in the short-term, consumer area.

---

### OASI BENEFICIARIES

*(Continued from page 9)*

monthly wage was low because of part-time work or absence from work on account of disability, unemployment, or other reasons. Such periods not only lowered the average monthly wage on which benefits were based but often have made it necessary for the worker to use up savings. Some beneficiaries, of course, had worked in noncovered employment, with the result that their average monthly wage was reduced and their benefits lowered; they were probably not forced, however, to use their savings.

Two-fifths of the retired-worker beneficiaries had quit working and filed for benefits because of ill health. At the time of the interview, three-fifths said they were unable to work. One out of every 10 beneficiaries was hospitalized during the survey year, with only about a fourth of the hospitalized group covered to any degree by hospital or sickness insurance. Others were sick in bed at home. Altogether, almost two-fifths of the beneficiary groups had a member hospitalized or sick in bed at home; some married couples had both the husband and wife bedridden. Other disabled beneficiaries who were ambulatory required medical care and drugs.

A fourth of the beneficiaries in the sample had been on the benefit rolls from 6 to 12 years and half from 4 to 12 years, getting along on independent retirement incomes that were inadequate to meet their needs, particularly if they were living alone. Some—those who could—met this situation by working, usually a part of the year but a few throughout the year; others shared homes with relatives, and some of them received part of their support from the relatives; a sixth received public assistance; and a fourth supplemented their incomes by drawing on their savings during the year studied.

In the light of these facts the surprising aspect of the amount of asset holdings at the end of the survey year by old-age and survivors insurance beneficiaries is not that so many had so little, but that so many had something, especially in liquid assets. The picture emerges of beneficiaries making small economies and dipping only cautiously into their savings.

# *World Trends in Social Security Benefits, 1935–55*

by CARL H. FARMAN*

***The 20 years since the passage of the Social Security Act have seen the development in the United States of comprehensive programs of old-age and survivors insurance, unemployment insurance, and public assistance. In other countries as well, the years from 1935 to 1955 have brought new social security programs and an expansion in some older systems. A summary report on international developments is presented in the following pages.***

SOCIAL security, in the sense of public programs of insurance, assistance, and related measures, is a little more than 70 years old; the first compulsory social insurance act—that of Germany—dates from 1883. The two most recent decades have been marked by the spread of social security programs to all parts of the world and great improvements in the programs existing before 1935.

During these 20 years the number of countries[1] with laws providing for old-age, invalidity, and survivors insurance increased from 28 to 49, and the number having health insurance from 23 to 45. The number of family allowance programs rose in number from 4 to 34. Insurance against work injuries (workmen's compensation), which was established in most countries well before 1935, and unemployment insurance programs have increased in extent but not to the same degree as the other programs.

During the years 1935–55, the number of persons covered under social security programs has increased substantially, as a result both of the expansion of coverage in countries with long-established programs and the introduction of social security systems in other nations.

New laws initiating new programs have been only one way of bringing more people under social security coverage. Expansion to additional areas within a country has been another. Many Latin American programs, for example, started with general enabling acts that were applied first only in one or two large cities or industrial areas. Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela are among the nations in which significant increases in coverage have occurred in the past 20 years as a result of extension of the operation of existing programs to additional areas of the country.

Expansion has also been occupational; nearly every country with programs in 1935, and several that have enacted legislation since then, have in recent years extended coverage to new occupational groups. Self-employed persons in Great Britain and most of the self-employed persons in the United States, Italian farmers, German artisans, and, in France, students and self-employed persons in specified professions are examples of groups so covered.

Growth in the numbers protected has been achieved in several health insurance systems by making dependents eligible for benefits and in some retirement plans by extending pension rights to the survivors of an insured worker.

In a few countries, expanded coverage has been brought about in a single broad sweep by providing universal eligibility for a specific benefit. In some cases this has been the culmination of a gradual development, as in the British National Health Service. In others, newly adopted programs have been universal in scope—the Canadian old-age pension system, for example. Larger employed populations—a byproduct of demographic and economic growth—have also served to increase the number of persons protected by social security.

Benefit expansion in recent years has been notable. New services and new cash benefit programs have been made available, and existing programs have been liberalized to provide higher cash payments or better medical care.

Fourteen countries[2] today have provision for the five principal types of protection—old-age, invalidity, and survivors insurance; health insurance (medical care and cash sickness benefits); workmen's compensation; unemployment insurance; and family allowances. In 1935 no country had all five programs, although Belgium, France, and Italy had some protection against all these risks.

The provision of more adequate benefits in existing programs has also been fairly generally achieved, always within the limits of the country's economic resources. Minimum amounts have commonly been established for benefits to the aged, the disabled, and dependent survivors. In the face of inflationary trends, the legislatures and social security institutions have acted to maintain the real value of their payments. Even in countries with extreme inflation, the rise in retirement and survivor payments has usually been greater than the cost-of-living increase. In some countries, notably Sweden, pen-

* Division of Research and Statistics, Office of the Commissioner.

[1] For purposes of this article, countries with populations of less than 100,000 are not taken into account, and China and Germany are each considered as a single country.

[2] Japan makes provision for family allowances as a part of the wage structure and not under a legally established social security program.

sions take into account the rise not only in living costs but in real wages.

When benefits under the contributory insurance program are inadequate, a considerable number of countries have set up assistance programs to help needy aged and disabled persons, widows, and survivor children. These programs are noted in the discussion of retirement and pension systems.

Something of the growth of social security is shown in tables 1 and 2. Table 1 lists, for the five most usual types of social security program, the nations that had plans in operation (or about to begin operations) as of January 1935 and the dates their first general laws were adopted. Table 2 shows the extent to which new legislation has been adopted and put into effect from January 1935 to January 1955.

To simplify the presentation, only the date of the earliest legislation establishing a major program for each of the five categories or types of plan is shown. Significant amending laws, such as the addition of survivor benefits in the United States in 1939 and the extensive amendments of Great Britain's programs in 1946, thus do not appear.

For purposes of this survey, legislation applying to special groups, such as civil servants, or to a single occupation has also been disregarded. The benefits or risks are grouped according to the most common type of program arrangement. Most countries having old-age, invalidity, or survivor programs now provide all three types of benefit. In a number of countries, however, the program started with only one or two of the three. The date of the first law applying to large groups of the population and providing old-age, invalidity, or survivor benefits is shown in the first column of each table.

Similarly, there is shown in the second column the date of the first law applying to large groups of the population and providing either medical care or cash sickness benefits. Special maternity benefits, ordinarily including both cash and medical care, are usually provided in connection with a general health insurance program. Legislation in three countries (Argentina, Cuba, and Guatemala) that provide for maternity insurance only is not shown in the table.

## *Old-Age, Invalidity, and Survivor Programs*

During 1935–55 the number of nations having retirement, invalidity, and survivor programs in operation increased from 28 to 49. In 1935, three-fourths of the programs were in European countries; 20 years later only half were in Europe. There were 12 systems in Latin America, four in the Near East, and two in the Far East.

Most countries provide insurance on attainment of a specific age (or upon retirement), or in the event of permanent disability or death. In a few countries, indicated in the tables by an asterisk, pensions are paid only to persons meeting an income test. In Ireland the old-age pension is contingent on a means test, but disability and survivor benefits are provided through insurance.

Among exceptions to the usual practice of providing protection against these three risks are Denmark and Panama, which do not pay survivor pensions, and Norway and Switzerland, which have no invalidity benefits. Denmark and Norway use the income test for old-age pensions. Canada has no survivor benefits, and aid to disabled persons takes the form of Dominion-Provincial assistance. In the United States payments to the needy disabled are provided under Federal-State assistance programs.

Two countries now provide universal old-age pensions for everyone meeting the age and residence requirements. Regardless of the contributions they have paid and of their personal wealth or income, claimants aged 70 and over in Canada and aged 67 and over in Sweden receive substantial pensions. New Zealand's "superannuation" benefit represents a more gradual approach to the same objective—benefits for all, without income test or contribution requirements. These countries have special income taxes to finance the benefits.

An increasing number of countries provide old-age assistance to supplement their old-age insurance programs. Such programs are in operation in Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Great Britain, Iceland, Ireland, Japan (where aid to the aged is part of a national assistance act), the Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States, and Uruguay. These are largely programs that have been established in recent years.

The growth of the aged population and, in many countries, favorable employment conditions have led to the adoption since 1935 of various provisions to encourage the worker to stay on the job, including pension increases for work after reaching the earliest pensionable age. Such increases are made in Chile, Czechoslovakia, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Paraguay, Rumania, and Yugoslavia.

Another development is the growth in the number of laws establishing an earlier retirement age (or in some cases the payment of a larger benefit) as a reward for certain types of hazardous or arduous employment covered by the social security system. Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, China (mainland), Czechoslovakia, Greece, Iran, Israel, Japan, Poland, Turkey, and the Soviet Union have such provisions today. In 1935, only Belgium and the Soviet Union made this distinction between workers.

## *Health and Maternity Insurance*

Forty-five health and maternity programs were in operation in 1955, compared with 23 in 1935. The slow but steady growth during the first 50 years after Germany's law of 1883 was succeeded by increased activity that spread these systems to almost every part of the world. In Europe the Iberian, Italian, and Scandinavian peninsulas have health insurance systems that did not exist in 1935; in the Orient, China (both Formosa and the mainland) and India have introduced health insurance, though as yet on a limited scale. There were no programs 20 years ago in the countries from Mexico to Peru, including the Caribbean nations, although Cuba had insurance provided by the voluntary societies. Today, 12 of these countries have programs, and Nicaragua enacted a law in Decem-

ber 1955 looking to that objective.[3] Argentina provides maternity benefits only.

In the Far East and Near East, health and maternity insurance programs were in operation in January 1955 in five nations—India, Iran, Japan, Turkey, and China (Formosa and the mainland). A health and maternity insurance plan went into operation in Burma as of January 1, 1956. Only Japan had such a program in 1935.

This expansion has been accompanied by a number of subsidiary developments, including better provision for the dependents of the worker covered under health insurance. Of 20 countries with health insurance programs in 1935, 12 had protection for dependents and eight did not (except on a voluntary, additional, or more costly basis). In 1955, of the laws governing 45 programs, only half a dozen did not require that dependents' benefits be provided.[4] Usually the members of the family get the same care as the insured worker, but because in some cases they pay a larger share of the cost or have briefer duration of hospital benefits, the terms of services to dependents are somewhat less favorable than those for the insured worker himself. Among the nations that in recent years have acted to assure medical care to dependents are Bulgaria, Chile, Ecuador, Great Britain, Ireland, Japan, and Luxembourg.

In Great Britain the National Health Service now furnishes a range of services that includes such items as specialist care, hospitalization, and necessary prosthetic appliances. The entire national medical plant and almost every doctor, dentist, and nurse are at the service of any one living in that country. In the mid-1930's, only general practitioner care and the "additional" benefits offered by some of the friendly societies were available.

Other notable developments since 1935 include an expansion in the number of programs that provide services under public health auspices rather than insurance; an effort in several countries to give extended care for long illnesses, especially tuberculosis; and—in Latin America particularly—the use of social insur-

**Table 1.—*Countries with social security programs in operation January 1, 1935, by type of program and date of first general law*[1]**

| Country | Old-age, invalidity, and survivors insurance (or pensions)[2] | Health and maternity insurance | Workmen's compensation | Unemployment insurance[3] | Family allowances |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Argentina | — | — | 1915 | — | — |
| Australia | * 1908 | — | [4] 1902 | — | — |
| Austria | 1906 | 1888 | 1887 | 1920 | — |
| Belgium | 1924 | — | 1903 | † 1920 | 1930 |
| Bolivia | — | — | 1924 | — | — |
| Brazil | 1934 | 1934 | 1919 | — | — |
| Bulgaria | 1924 | 1918 | 1924 | 1925 | — |
| Burma | — | — | 1923 | — | — |
| Cambodia | — | — | 1934 | — | — |
| Canada | — | — | [4] 1908 | — | — |
| Ceylon | — | — | 1934 | — | — |
| Chile | 1924 | 1924 | 1916 | — | — |
| Colombia | — | — | 1915 | — | — |
| Costa Rica | — | — | 1924 | — | — |
| Cuba | — | — | 1916 | — | — |
| Czechoslovakia | 1906 | 1888 | 1887 | † 1921 | — |
| Denmark | * 1891 | 1892 | 1898 | † 1907 | — |
| Dominican Republic | — | — | 1932 | — | — |
| Ecuador | — | — | 1921 | — | — |
| El Salvador | — | — | 1911 | — | — |
| Finland | — | — | 1898 | † 1917 | — |
| France | 1910 | 1928 | 1898 | † 1905 | 1932 |
| Germany | 1889 | 1883 | 1884 | 1927 | — |
| Great Britain | 1908 | 1911 | 1897 | 1911 | — |
| Greece | 1922 | 1922 | 1914 | — | — |
| Guatemala | — | — | 1906 | — | — |
| Hungary | 1928 | 1891 | 1907 | — | — |
| Iceland | 1909 | — | 1917 | — | — |
| India | — | — | 1923 | — | — |
| Ireland | 1908 | 1911 | 1897 | 1911 | — |
| Israel | — | — | 1927 | — | — |
| Italy | 1919 | — | 1898 | 1919 | 1934 |
| Japan | — | 1922 | 1911 | — | — |
| Libya | — | — | 1913 | — | — |
| Luxembourg | 1911 | 1901 | 1902 | — | — |
| Mexico | — | — | 1931 | — | — |
| Netherlands | [5] 1913 | [5] 1913 | 1901 | † 1916 | — |
| New Zealand | 1898 | — | 1900 | — | 1926 |
| Nicaragua | — | — | 1930 | — | — |
| Norway | — | 1909 | 1894 | — | — |
| Pakistan | — | — | 1923 | — | — |
| Panama | — | — | 1916 | — | — |
| Paraguay | — | — | 1927 | — | — |
| Peru | — | — | 1911 | — | — |
| Philippines | — | — | 1927 | — | — |
| Poland | 1927 | 1920 | 1884 | 1924 | — |
| Portugal | 1933 | 1933 | 1913 | — | — |
| Rumania | 1912 | 1912 | 1912 | — | — |
| Spain | 1919 | — | 1900 | † 1919 | — |
| Sweden | 1913 | 1891 | 1901 | † 1934 | — |
| Switzerland | — | 1911 | 1911 | [6] 1924 | — |
| Union of South Africa | * 1928 | — | 1914 | — | — |
| Union of Soviet Socialist Republics | 1922 | 1912 | 1903 | [7] | — |
| United States of America | — | — | 1908 | — | — |
| Uruguay | 1928 | — | 1914 | — | — |
| Venezuela | — | — | 1928 | — | — |
| Vietnam | — | — | 1934 | — | — |
| Yugoslavia | 1922 | 1922 | 1922 | — | — |

[1] Includes countries now independent whose status may have been different at time of first law. The term "general" applies to any law covering workers in industry, commerce, or agriculture or any combination of these groups.

[2] Asterisk denotes countries having programs with benefits subject to income test or having assistance programs only.

[3] Dagger denotes voluntary government-subsidized program.

[4] Date refers to the first State or Provincial law.

[5] Old-age, invalidity, and survivors insurance law effective 1919, as amended. Health insurance law effective 1929, as amended.

[6] Under Federal enabling law, several Cantons have compulsory programs, and some have voluntary government-subsidized programs.

[7] Program established by 1922 law, discontinued in 1930.

[3] Cuba has extensive voluntary insurance but compulsory maternity insurance only. Guatemala covers general accidents and maternity but not sickness in general. Haiti's program includes both accident and health insurance, but the latter program is not yet operating.

[4] Colombia, the Dominican Republic, India, Peru, Panama, and El Salvador. A few countries are omitted from the comparison —Brazil (which provides dependents' benefits as facilities permit), Turkey (with dependents' benefits in some cases), Portugal (where the provisions vary with the societies), Switzerland (where dependents' benefits are usual but not required by Federal law), and Greece and Ecuador (programs only beginning in 1935).

**Table 2.—*Countries with social security programs in operation, January 1, 1955, by type of program and date of legislation*[1]**

| Country | Old-age, invalidity, and survivors insurance (or pensions) [2] | Health and maternity insurance | Workmen's compensation | Unemployment insurance | Family allowances |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Afghanistan | — | — | 1946 | — | — |
| Albania | 1947 | 1947 | 1947 | — | — |
| Argentina | 1944 | — | x | — | — |
| Australia | * x | 1944 | x | 1944 | 1941 |
| Austria | x | x | x | x | 1948 |
| Belgium | x | 1944 | x | [3] x | x |
| Bolivia | — | 1949 | x | — | 1953 |
| Brazil | x | x | x | — | 1941 |
| Bulgaria | x | x | x | ([4]) | 1942 |
| Burma | — | — | x | — | — |
| Cambodia | — | — | x | — | — |
| Canada | 1951 | — | x | 1940 | 1944 |
| Ceylon | — | — | x | — | — |
| Chile | x | x | x | — | 1937 |
| China (Communist)[5] | 1951 | 1951 | 1951 | — | — |
| China (Nationalist)[5] | — | 1950 | 1950 | — | — |
| Colombia | — | 1946 | x | — | — |
| Costa Rica | 1946 | 1941 | x | — | — |
| Cuba | 1941 | — | x | — | — |
| Czechoslovakia | x | x | x | ([6]) | 1945 |
| Denmark | * x | x | x | x | 1950 |
| Dominican Republic | 1947 | 1947 | x | — | — |
| Ecuador | 1935 | 1935 | x | — | — |
| Egypt | * 1950 | — | 1936 | — | — |
| El Salvador | — | 1949 | x | — | — |
| Finland | 1937 | — | x | x | 1943 |
| France | x | x | x | — | x |
| Germany | x | x | x | x | 1954 |
| Great Britain | x | x | x | x | 1945 |
| Greece | x | x | x | 1945 | — |
| Guatemala [7] | — | — | x | — | — |
| Haiti | — | — | 1951 | — | — |
| Honduras | — | — | 1952 | — | — |
| Hungary | x | x | x | — | 1938 |
| Iceland | x | 1936 | x | — | 1945 |
| India | — | 1948 | x | — | — |
| Indonesia | — | — | 1939 | — | — |
| Iran | 1953 | 1953 | 1943 | — | 1950 |
| Ireland | x | x | x | x | 1944 |
| Israel | 1953 | — | x | — | — |
| Italy | x | 1943 | x | x | x |
| Japan | 1941 | x | x | 1947 | — |
| Jordan | — | — | 1955 | — | — |
| Lebanon | — | — | 1943 | — | — |
| Libya | — | — | x | — | — |
| Luxembourg | x | x | x | — | 1947 |
| Mexico | 1942 | 1942 | x | — | — |
| Netherlands | x | x | x | [8] 1949 | 1939 |
| New Zealand | x | 1938 | x | 1938 | x |
| Nicaragua | — | — | x | — | — |
| Norway | * 1936 | x | x | 1938 | 1946 |
| Pakistan | — | — | x | — | — |
| Panama | 1941 | 1941 | x | — | — |
| Paraguay | 1943 | 1943 | x | — | — |
| Peru | 1936 | 1936 | x | — | — |
| Philippines | — | — | x | — | — |
| Poland | x | x | x | ([9]) | 1947 |
| Portugal | x | x | x | — | 1942 |
| Rumania | x | x | x | — | 1944 |
| Spain | x | 1942 | x | ([10]) | 1938 |
| Sweden | x | x | x | x | 1947 |
| Switzerland | 1946 | x | x | x | 1952 |
| Syria | — | — | 1943 | — | — |
| Turkey | 1949 | 1950 | 1945 | — | — |
| Union of South Africa | * x | — | x | 1937 | 1947 |
| Union of Soviet Socialist Republics | x | x | x | — | 1944 |
| United States of America | 1935 | — | x | 1935 | — |
| Uruguay | x | — | x | — | 1943 |
| Venezuela | — | 1940 | x | — | — |
| Vietnam | — | — | x | — | 1947 |
| Yugoslavia | x | x | x | 1952 | 1950 |

[1] Legislation in effect before 1955 is represented by "x." For date of such legislation see table 1.
[2] Asterisk denotes countries having programs with benefits subject to income test or having assistance programs only.
[3] In 1945 voluntary government-subsidized program became compulsory.
[4] Program discontinued, 1951.
[5] When data from the table are used in the text, China has been counted as a single country.
[6] Program discontinued, 1948.
[7] General social insurance enabling law, 1946, began with system of work-accident insurance entirely different from former program. Benefits for general accidents were introduced 1949; maternity benefits introduced, 1953.
[8] Voluntary government-subsidized system suspended in 1940; limited subsidized system established in 1945; compulsory general program enacted in 1949, effective 1952.
[9] Program not in operation, 1955.
[10] Program discontinued, 1938.

ance capital funds to build health insurance hospitals and clinics.

## *Workmen's Compensation*

Insurance or compensation for work accidents and occupational diseases is the most widespread type of social insurance. For most countries it is the earliest form to be adopted, and in 12 countries it is still the only type. In the past 20 years it has grown steadily among nations that previously had no social security legislation.

Since 1935 new programs have been established in Afghanistan, Albania, China (Formosa and the mainland), Egypt, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Turkey. A number of new countries have legislation that antedates 1935 and their establishment as nations; they are Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, India, Israel, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Vietnam.

While in 1935 the total number of independent countries having work accident insurance or workmen's compensation laws was about 50, the present total is 71. With every degree of per capita income, administrative efficiency, and social development represented among these 71 countries, there is inevitably a great diversity in the legal standards and in the administration of the various programs. The general trend is toward the coverage of more people and the provision of more nearly adequate benefits, but examples may be found of nations at virtually every stage in this evolutionary process.

In the administration of workmen's compensation there has been a definite trend toward the use of public funds as the carriers of the insurance. Fifteen countries had exclusive public funds in 1935, while 37 operated wholly or exclusively with such funds in 1955. In Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Mexico, Paraguay, and Venezuela, workmen's compensation insurance is handled exclusively by public agencies in those parts of the national territory where a broad social security program has been introduced.

Today much more frequently than 20 years ago, workmen's compensation programs are combined or operated in conjunction with other social

insurance programs. A number of countries newly embarking on social security programs have started with a combined workmen's compensation and health and maternity insurance system. This has occurred in Bolivia, Burma, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala (where workmen's compensation is combined only with maternity and non-work-connected injury insurance), India, and Venezuela. In Iran, Mexico, and Paraguay, old-age, invalidity, and survivors insurance is also combined with the employment injuries program.

## Unemployment Insurance

In the early 1930's the major domestic problem of the industrialized nations was unemployment, but for most of the past 20 years this issue has not been generally serious. The great extent of joblessness during the depression era brought a fairly widespread belief that unemployment was not an insurable risk. Nevertheless, in the 1930's unemployment insurance programs were adopted by several governments — Spain, Sweden, the United States, Canada (where a 1935 law that was declared unconstitutional was reenacted in 1940), the Union of South Africa, Norway, and New Zealand. Since 1940, national laws have been adopted in Australia, Japan, the Netherlands, and Yugoslavia.

In recent years, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, Poland, and Spain have discontinued their unemployment insurance programs. Outside Europe, five nations (Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, and the United States) have adopted unemployment insurance or related programs in the past 2 decades. Latin America has some small-scale unemployment insurance operations — in Chile, where salaried employees have had protection since 1937; Uruguay, with guaranteed-wage plans in the wool, hide, and meat-packing industries; and Ecuador, where a compulsory program was instituted in 1954 for school teachers.

Methods of coping with unemployment vary greatly from country to country but not so much as they did in the early 1930's, when there were several types of work relief and public aid in addition to unemployment insurance. Currently, 14 countries paying cash benefits have compulsory insurance programs.[5] Four countries —Denmark, Finland, Sweden, and Switzerland—now have voluntary systems with government subsidies; there were eight programs of this type in 1935. In Australia and New Zealand, payment of benefits is contingent on a liberal income test. France and Luxembourg have programs of national unemployment relief. In Spain and Portugal, public works are used instead of insurance to combat unemployment. Finland also makes extensive use of public works for this purpose.

Italy combines all these methods. It has compulsory unemployment insurance, unemployment assistance, a national guaranteed-wage plan, and a program of public works. The variety of attacks on the problem is evidence of the seriousness of unemployment in Italy, where more people are out of work now than in the 1930's.

## Family Allowances

The rapid development of family allowance programs in recent years has materially increased the cash income of families with children in many parts of the world. Twenty years ago New Zealand and three European nations — Belgium, France, and Italy—had family allowance programs. By 1955 there were 24 programs in Europe, four in South America, and six in other parts of the world. Development has been particularly rapid in the larger, richer, and more industrialized nations.

In some Scandinavian countries and most of the British Commonwealth the allowances have been paid to all families with children or with more than a specified number of children. In Denmark and South Africa the allowances are paid only to families with low incomes. In the other countries, with one or two exceptions, family allowances have more the character of a supplement to wages. They are in many cases paid at the workplace by the employer, and the fact of employment rather than of residence determines eligibility, although "employment" usually includes the period when the claimant is receiving social insurance benefits as well as when he is actually working. France pays prenatal allowances, maternity allowances, regular family allowances starting with the second child, and single-wage allowances for wage earners with one or more children if there is only one wage earner in the family.

## Summary

During the past 20 years social security measures have taken on an increasing importance in countries throughout the world. All industrial nations now have some kind of social insurance protection for workers faced with the hazards of income loss or sickness costs. In a number of countries, separate programs for different risks have been replaced by comprehensive programs covering almost the entire population. Increasingly, also, countries starting on the road to industrialization have begun to build a social security structure to meet immediate needs and to lay the groundwork for the protection of families against the major hazards of an industrial economy.

[5] Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, the Union of South Africa, the United States, and Yugoslavia.

# Notes and Brief Reports

## Expenditures for Assistance Payments from State-Local Funds, 1954-55*

In the fiscal year 1954–55, expenditures for public assistance payments from State and local funds amounted to 47 cents per $100 of personal income for the country as a whole—9 percent more than the 43 cents per $100 spent in 1953–54. Aid to the needy increased by almost a tenth from the amount spent in the preceding year, while personal income remained about the same. Personal income in the calendar year 1954—to which assistance expenditures for the fiscal year 1954–55 have been related—attained a peak of $286.3 billion but was up only $2 billion or 0.7 percent from the preceding year. Assistance payments from State and local funds, in contrast, rose 9.6 percent ($117 million) to $1,353 million. Almost $66 million of the total increase occurred in general assistance, which is administered without Federal financial participation.

**Table 1.—*Number of States with specified change in personal income and in expenditures for public assistance from State and local funds, 1954–55 from 1953–54*[1]**

| Percentage change | Personal income | | Assistance expenditures from State and local funds | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Increases | Decreases | Increases | Decreases |
| Total number of States | 30 | 20 | 47 | 3 |
| 0–2.4 | 20 | 16 | 11 | 2 |
| 2.5–4.9 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 1 |
| 5.0–9.9 | 4 | | 8 | |
| 10.0–14.9 | | | 8 | |
| 15.0–19.9 | | | 4 | |
| 20.0 or more | | | 7 | |
| *Mean percentage change* | .7 | | *9.6* | |
| *Median percentage change* | .7 | | *8.4* | |

[1] Expenditures are for fiscal years 1953–54 and 1954–55 and exclude amounts spent for administration; they are related respectively to personal income for calendar years 1953 and 1954.

* Prepared by Frank J. Hanmer, Division of Program Statistics and Analysis, Bureau of Public Assistance.

The percentage relationship between the State-local share of assistance payments and personal income in a State is used here as a rough measure of the fiscal effort made to finance public assistance. Such expenditures for the fiscal years 1953–54 and 1954–55 are related to personal income for the calendar years 1953 and 1954, respectively, in each of the 48 States, the District of Columbia, and Hawaii. Income data are not available for Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

The new personal income series of

**Table 2.—*Expenditures for public assistance payments from State and local funds in relation to personal income and amount expended per inhabitant, by State, 1954–55*[1]**

| State | Percentage change in— | | Expenditures from State and local funds for assistance | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Personal income, 1954 from 1953 | Expenditures from State and local funds for assistance, 1954–55 from 1953–54 | Per $100 of personal income | | | Per inhabitant, 1954–55 |
| | | | 1953–54 | 1954–55 | Percentage change, 1954–55 from 1953–54 | |
| United States [2] | +0.7 | +9.6 | $0.43 | $0.47 | +9.3 | $8.37 |
| Alabama | −3.2 | +26.0 | .21 | .28 | +33.3 | 3.04 |
| Arizona | +2.8 | +3.2 | .44 | .45 | +2.3 | 7.06 |
| Arkansas | −1.8 | +14.5 | .40 | .46 | +15.0 | 4.54 |
| California | +1.6 | +1.8 | .70 | .70 | [3] +.2 | 15.06 |
| Colorado | +.5 | +3.5 | 1.50 | 1.55 | +3.3 | 26.09 |
| Connecticut | +.3 | +17.0 | .34 | .40 | +17.6 | 9.45 |
| Delaware | +1.3 | +29.9 | .13 | .17 | +30.8 | 4.01 |
| District of Columbia | −.6 | +9.7 | .15 | .17 | +13.3 | 3.72 |
| Florida | +5.5 | +6.3 | .34 | .34 | [3] +.8 | 5.46 |
| Georgia | −1.5 | +8.1 | .39 | .43 | +10.3 | 5.34 |
| Hawaii | −.3 | +43.9 | .27 | .40 | +48.1 | 6.73 |
| Idaho [4] | −2.2 | +2.3 | .49 | .51 | +4.1 | 7.31 |
| Illinois | +1.1 | +15.5 | .41 | .47 | +14.6 | 10.07 |
| Indiana | −3.9 | +16.4 | .20 | .24 | +20.0 | 4.43 |
| Iowa | +8.4 | ([5]) | .53 | .49 | −7.5 | 8.17 |
| Kansas | +4.3 | +6.3 | .57 | .58 | +1.8 | 9.85 |
| Kentucky | −1.0 | +2.0 | .31 | .32 | +3.2 | 3.87 |
| Louisiana | +.3 | +.9 | .95 | .96 | +1.1 | 12.48 |
| Maine | +.9 | +3.7 | .54 | .56 | +3.7 | 8.31 |
| Maryland | +.7 | +12.8 | .13 | .15 | +15.4 | 2.92 |
| Massachusetts | +1.4 | +7.2 | .79 | .83 | +5.1 | 16.02 |
| Michigan | −2.2 | +22.2 | .35 | .43 | +22.9 | 8.76 |
| Minnesota | +3.1 | +15.1 | .64 | .71 | +10.9 | 11.66 |
| Mississippi | −2.0 | +4.5 | .34 | .37 | +8.8 | 3.19 |
| Missouri | +1.2 | +2.1 | .55 | .55 | [3] +.9 | 9.69 |
| Montana | −1.3 | +4.3 | .64 | .68 | +6.2 | 11.73 |
| Nebraska | +6.2 | +3.4 | .37 | .36 | −2.7 | 5.85 |
| Nevada | +8.8 | +12.0 | .33 | .34 | +3.0 | 8.21 |
| New Hampshire | +3.9 | −.3 | .47 | .45 | −4.3 | 7.30 |
| New Jersey | +1.6 | +23.9 | .16 | .19 | +18.8 | 4.28 |
| New Mexico | +2.0 | −1.5 | .42 | .41 | −2.4 | 5.63 |
| New York | +2.7 | +13.9 | .43 | .47 | +9.3 | 10.23 |
| North Carolina | +1.5 | +14.3 | .23 | .26 | +13.0 | 3.05 |
| North Dakota | +1.5 | +9.9 | .62 | .67 | +8.1 | 7.97 |
| Ohio | −.3 | +23.1 | .34 | .42 | +23.5 | 8.43 |
| Oklahoma | +.7 | +2.4 | 1.17 | 1.19 | +1.7 | 17.43 |
| Oregon | −.9 | +3.3 | .60 | .62 | +3.3 | 10.91 |
| Pennsylvania | −2.3 | +30.6 | .24 | .32 | +33.3 | 5.74 |
| Rhode Island | −.8 | +13.3 | .55 | .63 | +14.5 | 11.46 |
| South Carolina | −4.5 | +1.0 | .27 | .29 | +7.4 | 3.06 |
| South Dakota | +3.1 | +4.9 | .49 | .50 | +2.0 | 6.63 |
| Tennessee | ([5]) | −3.4 | .34 | .32 | −5.9 | 3.92 |
| Texas | +2.1 | +1.0 | .29 | .29 | [3] −2.4 | 4.52 |
| Utah | +.4 | +6.5 | .61 | .65 | +6.6 | 9.61 |
| Vermont | −.2 | +9.4 | .40 | .44 | +10.0 | 6.14 |
| Virginia | +.2 | +10.3 | .09 | .10 | +11.1 | 1.49 |
| Washington | +1.5 | +.5 | .79 | .78 | −1.3 | 15.27 |
| West Virginia | −4.3 | +1.6 | .38 | .40 | +5.3 | 4.94 |
| Wisconsin | −.1 | +13.6 | .50 | .57 | +14.0 | 9.70 |
| Wyoming | −1.9 | +4.2 | .43 | .45 | +4.7 | 8.03 |

[1] Expenditures are for fiscal years 1953–54 and 1954–55 and exclude amounts spent for administration; they are related respectively to personal income for calendar years 1953 and 1954.
[2] Data on income for Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands not available.
[3] Computed from unrounded ratios.
[4] Reporting of general assistance expenditures incomplete.
[5] Increase of less than 0.05 percent.

**Table 3.—*Factors underlying variations in fiscal effort among selected States, 1954–55***

| Factor | Specified fiscal effort | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | High effort and high per capita income (Massachusetts) | High effort and low per capita income (Louisiana) | Median effort (Arizona) | Low effort and high per capita income (New Jersey) | Low effort and low per capita income (Virginia) |
| Recipient rate per 1,000 population, December 1954: [1] | | | | | |
| Old-age assistance (population aged 65 and over) | 177 | 579 | 255 | 46 | 71 |
| Aid to dependent children (population under age 18) | 21 | 45 | 39 | 9 | 20 |
| Aid to the permanently and totally disabled (population aged 18–64) | 3.4 | 8.1 | ---------- | 0.9 | 2.4 |
| General assistance (population under age 65) | 6.9 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 5.3 | (2) |
| Old-age and survivors insurance beneficiary rate, December 1954 (population aged 65 and over) | 485 | 254 | 390 | 495 | 323 |
| Average payment per recipient, December 1954: | | | | | |
| Old-age assistance | $75.93 | $50.71 | $55.34 | $66.80 | $29.56 |
| Aid to dependent children | 37.97 | 16.96 | 23.64 | 34.66 | 17.14 |
| Aid to the blind | 92.12 | 49.21 | 63.23 | 68.56 | 35.73 |
| Aid to the permanently and totally disabled | 97.95 | 42.42 | ---------- | 79.02 | 38.13 |
| General assistance | 61.75 | 39.50 | 43.64 | 81.56 | 35.91 |
| Per capita income, 1954 | $1,922 | $1,302 | $1,582 | $2,219 | $1,480 |
| Fiscal effort, 1955 (assistance expenditure per $100 of personal income) | $0.83 | $0.96 | $0.45 | $0.19 | $0.10 |
| Expenditures per inhabitant from State-local funds | $16.02 | $12.48 | $7.06 | $4.28 | $1.49 |

[1] Rates for aid to the blind not available.
[2] Not available.

the Department of Commerce[1] has been used in this note for both years in place of the now discontinued series on income payments to individuals. Broader coverage of income in kind is provided by the new series, and other improvements have been made in estimating the flow of income to individuals; data on income and fiscal effort are therefore not comparable with those for earlier years published in the BULLETIN. The series makes substantial changes in income payments for only a few States, however.

All but three States (New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Tennessee) spent more from State and local funds for assistance in 1954–55 than in 1953–54. Changes ranged from a decrease of 3.4 percent in Tennessee to an increase of 43.9 percent in Hawaii. Eleven States, including Hawaii, increased expenditures from State-local funds more than 15 percent, in contrast to a like number of States that increased assistance funds less than 2.5 percent (table 1). The rise in expenditures for assistance payments from State and local funds amounted to 5 percent or more in 27 of the 47 States with increases.

Personal income rose in 3 out of every 5 States, but percentage changes were much smaller than those in the State-local share of assistance payments. Upward or downward changes were less than 2.5 percent in 36 States and were less than 5 percent in an additional 10 States. The highest increase in personal income (8.8 percent) occurred in Nevada, and in three other States the rise also exceeded 5 percent.

As a result of the shifts in personal income and in State and local funds for assistance payments, fiscal effort to support public assistance rose in 43 States and declined in seven States. The State-local share of assistance expenditures was higher in all 43 States making greater fiscal effort in 1954–55 than in 1953–54, but personal income fell in 20 States and rose less, percentagewise, than assistance expenditures in the remaining 23 States. In four of the seven States making less fiscal effort in 1954–55, on the other hand, the percentage increase in assistance expenditures from State and local funds was less than that in personal income; in the other three States, assistance payments declined while income rose.

There was likewise considerable variation among the States in the percentage changes in fiscal effort that took place between 1953–54 and 1954–55. Changes in the relationship of assistance expenditures made from State-local funds to State personal income ranged from a decrease of 7.5 percent in Iowa to an increase of 48.1 percent in Hawaii. Hawaii was one of seven States with an increase in fiscal effort of at least 20 percent. Half the States increased their effort to support public assistance by more than 6.4 percent. The distribution of States by the percentage change between the 2 years in the proportion of personal income used for public assistance is shown below.

| Percentage change | Number of States with specified percentage change in fiscal effort | |
|---|---|---|
| | Increases | Decreases |
| Total | 43 | 7 |
| Less than 5.0 | 15 | 5 |
| 5.0–9.9 | 8 | 2 |
| 10.0–14.9 | 9 | ---------- |
| 15.0–19.9 | 4 | ---------- |
| 20.0 or more | 7 | ---------- |
| *Mean percentage change* | *9.3* | ---------- |
| *Median percentage change* | *6.4* | ---------- |

In 1954–55, in the United States as a whole and in more than three-fifths of the States, less than 50 cents out of every $100 of income going to individuals represented assistance payments from State and local funds. There was wide variation among the States, however, in the ratio of such assistance expenditures to personal income. Thus, Colorado's high expenditures of $1.55 per $100 of personal income was fifteen times Virginia's low of 10 cents. The distribution of States according to the relationship between assistance payments from State and local funds and personal income follows.

| *Expenditures per $100 of personal income* | *Number of States* |
|---|---|
| Less than 30 cents | 10 |
| 30–49 cents | 22 |
| 50–69 cents | 11 |
| 70–89 cents | 4 |
| 90 cents or more | 3 |

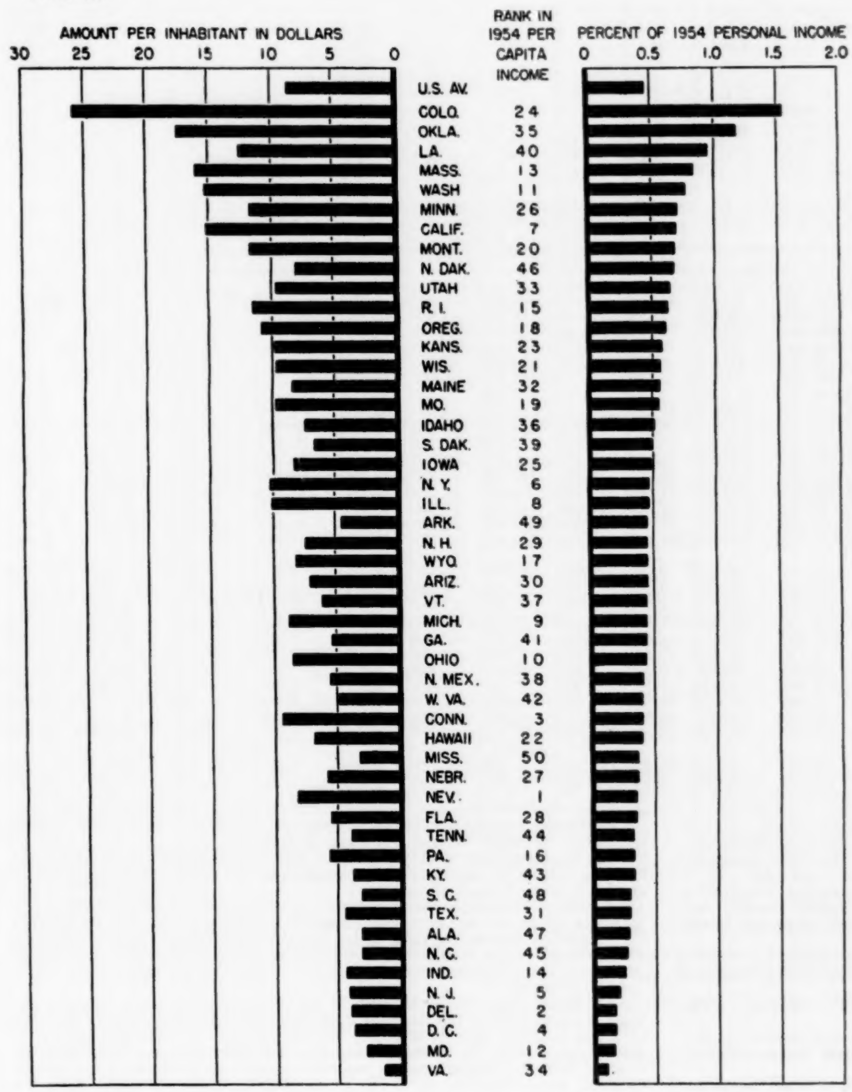
[1] See Charles F. Schwartz and Robert E. Graham, Jr., "Personal Income by States, 1929–54," *Survey of Current Business*, September 1955.

Under the Social Security Act, each State defines the scope of its assistance program—who will be eligible and the amount of assistance he is to receive. The relative income position of a State and the income distribution among the population influence the assistance programs in two ways: first, by placing limitations on the tax resources available to finance the assistance programs, and, second, by determining the number of persons who will be eligible for assistance under the State's standards for determining need. Old-age and survivors insurance benefits form an important source of income for the aged, and are an additional factor influencing the number of aged in need of old-age assistance.

In this analysis the average payment per recipient is considered a reflection of the level of the assistance standard, and per capita income is used as an indication of the relative ability of the States to finance public programs. Recipient rates—that is, the number of recipients of assistance per 1,000 population in the appropriate age group—are a measure of the incidence of need under the State's standard.

Per inhabitant expenditures for assistance payments from State and local funds correlate roughly with the fiscal effort made to finance public assistance (chart 1). Generally speaking, States with the largest expenditures per inhabitant from State-local funds also made the greatest fiscal effort to support the public assistance programs.

**Chart 1.—***Expenditures per inhabitant for public assistance payments from State and local funds in relation to personal income, by State, fiscal year 1954–55*




Relatively large expenditures per inhabitant in high-income States result primarily from high assistance standards, and in low-income States from high recipient rates. On the other hand, relatively low expenditures per inhabitant in high-income States result primarily from low recipient rates, and in low-income States they are the result of comparatively low assistance standards (table 3). Massachusetts and Louisiana, for example, are among the States making comparatively high expenditures per inhabitant and fiscal effort, yet they have very different economic and program characteristics. Massachusetts, a high-income State, has high assistance standards, a high beneficiary rate for old-age and survivors insurance, and recipient rates in the middle range. Louisiana, a low-income State, has high recipient rates (except for general assistance), combined with moderate or low assistance standards, and a low beneficiary rate for old-age and survivors insurance.

The program characteristics in States with low expenditures per inhabitant and low effort may also be different for the high- and low-income States. In New Jersey, a high-income State, the fiscal effort is low despite high assistance standards, because of low recipient rates. In contrast, Virginia, which is a low-income State, has low effort because of low assistance standards. New Jersey ranked fourth among the States in beneficiary rate for old-age and survivors insurance, but Virginia was in the group with a medium rate.

# Current Operating Statistics

**Table 1.—*Selected social insurance and related programs, by specified period, 1940–56***

[In thousands; data corrected to Apr. 9, 1956]

| Year and month | Total | Retirement, disability, and survivor programs | | | | | | | | | | | Unemployment insurance programs | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Monthly retirement and disability benefits [1] | | | | Survivor benefits | | | | | | Temporary disability benefits under Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act [9] | State laws [10] | Veterans' legislation [11] | Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act [9] |
| | | | | | | Monthly | | | | Lump-sum [7] | | | | | |
| | | Social Security Act | Railroad Retirement Act | Civil Service Commission [2] | Veterans Administration [3] | Social Security Act [4] | Railroad Retirement Act [5] | Civil Service Commission [2] | Veterans Administration [6] | Social Security Act | Other [8] | | | | |
| | | **Number of beneficiaries** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **1955** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February | ..... | 5,070.2 | 405.9 | 219.5 | 2,637.8 | 2,015.7 | 189.0 | 66.4 | (12) | 38.7 | 11.1 | 30.6 | 1,693.8 | 111.2 | 122.0 |
| March | ..... | 5,169.9 | 410.3 | 220.7 | 2,642.7 | 2,030.9 | 190.8 | 67.5 | 1,146.0 | 44.0 | 15.2 | 30.5 | 1,600.2 | 106.9 | 111.0 |
| April | ..... | 5,275.5 | 412.3 | 222.0 | 2,651.3 | 2,054.9 | 192.9 | 68.2 | (12) | 51.1 | 12.7 | 26.7 | 1,345.1 | 86.3 | 100.0 |
| May | ..... | 5,370.0 | 414.2 | 223.4 | 2,659.8 | 2,077.1 | 194.9 | 69.0 | (12) | 51.7 | 12.5 | 25.8 | 1,136.0 | 66.1 | 54.5 |
| June | ..... | 5,462.3 | 416.3 | 224.9 | 2,668.8 | 2,101.2 | 196.5 | 70.7 | 1,154.2 | 56.5 | 12.4 | 25.5 | 1,956.2 | 63.8 | 31.6 |
| July | ..... | 5,527.8 | 417.6 | 225.8 | 2,675.6 | 2,115.4 | 197.2 | 70.8 | (12) | 44.0 | 11.7 | 22.3 | 923.8 | 67.6 | 23.3 |
| August | ..... | 5,591.3 | 418.4 | 227.8 | 2,682.7 | 2,133.2 | 197.9 | 71.5 | (12) | 50.8 | 12.1 | 37.5 | 838.7 | 69.9 | 31.2 |
| September | ..... | 5,646.3 | 419.7 | 229.8 | 2,688.6 | 2,150.0 | 198.8 | 71.9 | 1,155.8 | 48.0 | 12.0 | 36.8 | 763.2 | 61.8 | 29.6 |
| October | ..... | 5,703.9 | 422.0 | 231.3 | 2,695.2 | 2,151.6 | 202.1 | 73.1 | (12) | 48.3 | 12.2 | 33.8 | 672.4 | 42.2 | 27.3 |
| November | ..... | 5,747.6 | 424.5 | 231.8 | 2,700.8 | 2,154.3 | 204.6 | 73.5 | (12) | 46.1 | 12.4 | 37.5 | 685.3 | 39.6 | 33.6 |
| December | ..... | 5,788.1 | 426.7 | 233.9 | 2,706.6 | 2,172.5 | 206.4 | 74.3 | 1,155.6 | 46.7 | 12.2 | 35.7 | 860.8 | 50.9 | 48.0 |
| **1956** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | ..... | 5,817.6 | 426.8 | 237.2 | 2,711.8 | 2,186.3 | 207.1 | 75.3 | (12) | 46.6 | 11.9 | 38.4 | 1,200.0 | 66.0 | 58.1 |
| February | ..... | 5,872.2 | 428.9 | 239.3 | 2,704.4 | 2,197.7 | 208.0 | 76.0 | (12) | 41.8 | 12.2 | 29.3 | 1,309.2 | 73.5 | 59.7 |
| | | **Amount of benefits [13]** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1940 | $1,183,462 | $17,150 | $114,166 | $62,019 | $317,851 | $6,371 | $1,448 | ..... | $105,696 | $11,833 | $12,267 | ..... | $518,700 | ..... | $15,961 |
| 1941 | 1,079,648 | 51,169 | 119,912 | 64,933 | 320,561 | 23,644 | 1,559 | ..... | 111,799 | 13,270 | 13,943 | ..... | 344,321 | ..... | 14,537 |
| 1942 | 1,124,351 | 76,147 | 122,806 | 68,115 | 325,265 | 39,523 | 1,603 | ..... | 111,193 | 15,005 | 14,342 | ..... | 344,084 | ..... | 6,268 |
| 1943 | 911,696 | 92,943 | 125,795 | 72,961 | 331,350 | 55,152 | 1,704 | ..... | 116,133 | 17,843 | 17,255 | ..... | 79,643 | ..... | 917 |
| 1944 | 1,104,638 | 113,487 | 129,707 | 77,193 | 456,279 | 73,451 | 1,765 | ..... | 144,302 | 22,034 | 19,238 | ..... | 62,385 | $4,215 | 582 |
| 1945 | 2,047,025 | 148,107 | 137,140 | 83,874 | 697,830 | 99,651 | 1,772 | ..... | 254,238 | 26,127 | 23,431 | ..... | 445,866 | 126,630 | 2,359 |
| 1946 | 5,135,413 | 222,320 | 149,188 | 94,585 | 1,268,984 | 127,933 | 1,817 | ..... | 333,640 | 27,851 | 30,610 | ..... | 1,094,850 | 1,743,718 | 39,917 |
| 1947 | 4,658,540 | 287,554 | 177,053 | 106,876 | 1,676,029 | 149,179 | 19,283 | ..... | 382,515 | 29,460 | 33,115 | $11,368 | 776,165 | 970,542 | 39,401 |
| 1948 | 4,454,705 | 352,022 | 208,642 | 132,852 | 1,711,182 | 171,837 | 36,011 | $918 | 413,912 | 32,315 | 32,140 | 30,843 | 793,265 | 510,167 | 28,599 |
| 1949 | 5,613,168 | 437,420 | 240,893 | 158,973 | 1,692,215 | 196,586 | 39,257 | 4,317 | 477,406 | 33,158 | 31,771 | 30,103 | 1,737,279 | 430,194 | 103,596 |
| 1950 | 5,196,761 | 651,409 | 254,240 | 175,787 | 1,732,208 | 276,945 | 43,884 | 8,409 | 491,579 | 32,740 | 33,578 | 28,099 | 1,373,426 | 34,653 | 59,804 |
| 1951 | 5,503,855 | 1,321,061 | 268,733 | 196,529 | 1,647,938 | 506,803 | 49,527 | 14,014 | 519,398 | 57,337 | 33,356 | 26,297 | 840,411 | 2,234 | 20,217 |
| 1952 | 6,285,237 | 1,539,327 | 361,200 | 225,120 | 1,722,225 | 591,504 | 74,085 | 19,986 | 572,983 | 63,298 | 37,251 | 34,689 | 998,237 | 3,539 | 41,793 |
| 1953 | 7,353,396 | 2,175,311 | 374,112 | 269,300 | 1,840,437 | 743,536 | 83,319 | 27,325 | 613,475 | 87,451 | 43,377 | 45,150 | 962,221 | 41,698 | 46,684 |
| 1954 | 9,455,374 | 2,697,982 | 428,900 | 298,126 | 1,921,380 | 879,952 | 93,201 | 32,530 | 628,801 | 92,229 | 41,480 | 49,173 | 2,026,866 | 107,666 | 157,088 |
| 1955 | 10,275,552 | 3,747,742 | 438,970 | 335,876 | 2,057,515 | 1,107,541 | 121,847 | 39,362 | 688,426 | 112,871 | 42,233 | 51,945 | 1,350,268 | 87,672 | 93,284 |
| **1955** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February | 855,610 | 270,106 | 34,140 | 26,320 | 168,451 | 83,115 | 9,061 | 2,988 | 56,770 | 7,467 | 3,137 | 3,859 | 165,469 | 10,235 | 14,492 |
| March | 884,513 | 277,284 | 34,556 | 26,627 | 170,656 | 83,953 | 9,163 | 3,068 | 57,325 | 8,646 | 4,314 | 4,368 | 178,762 | 11,338 | 14,453 |
| April | 846,580 | 284,465 | 34,745 | 26,808 | 170,765 | 85,177 | 9,282 | 3,085 | 57,647 | 10,210 | 3,792 | 3,592 | 135,779 | 8,423 | 12,810 |
| May | 829,816 | 290,578 | 34,967 | 26,964 | 171,438 | 86,287 | 9,397 | 3,128 | 57,961 | 10,248 | 3,773 | 3,625 | 117,402 | 6,739 | 7,309 |
| June | 823,681 | 296,522 | 35,167 | 27,043 | 171,267 | 87,503 | 9,497 | 3,153 | 56,488 | 11,244 | 3,464 | 3,397 | 108,861 | 6,607 | 3,468 |
| July | 810,548 | 300,999 | 35,293 | 27,162 | 172,100 | 88,413 | 9,551 | 3,185 | 57,993 | 9,024 | 3,252 | 2,818 | 91,602 | 6,764 | 2,392 |
| August | 823,944 | 305,302 | 35,359 | 27,582 | 172,342 | 89,431 | 9,607 | 3,253 | 58,075 | 10,176 | 3,385 | 5,185 | 92,834 | 7,682 | 3,731 |
| September | 817,082 | 308,860 | 36,521 | 27,767 | 171,495 | 90,344 | 9,827 | 3,283 | 57,789 | 9,612 | 3,357 | 5,064 | 83,169 | 6,528 | 3,466 |
| October | 811,776 | 312,861 | 36,729 | 30,832 | 173,660 | 91,099 | 10,000 | 3,703 | 57,310 | 9,719 | 3,398 | 4,803 | 70,091 | 4,243 | 3,328 |
| November | 820,709 | 316,057 | 36,953 | 31,135 | 173,019 | 91,805 | 10,146 | 3,759 | 57,099 | 9,304 | 3,525 | 5,184 | 74,674 | 4,132 | 3,917 |
| December | 849,375 | 318,812 | 37,151 | 31,458 | 173,814 | 92,801 | 10,251 | 3,785 | 57,361 | 9,387 | 3,402 | 4,979 | 95,153 | 5,230 | 5,791 |
| **1956** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 897,436 | 321,075 | 37,191 | 32,594 | 174,138 | 93,595 | 10,306 | 3,858 | 57,468 | 9,375 | 3,352 | 4,871 | 135,725 | 6,726 | 7,162 |
| February | 907,673 | 325,162 | 37,423 | 32,593 | 173,105 | 94,268 | 10,367 | 3,928 | 57,127 | 8,439 | 3,446 | 3,729 | 143,923 | 7,051 | 7,112 |

1 Under the Social Security Act, retirement benefits—old-age, wife's, and husband's benefits, and benefits to children of old-age beneficiaries—partly estimated. Under the other 3 systems, benefits for age and disability; beginning December 1951, spouse's annuities under the Railroad Retirement Act.

2 Data for civil-service retirement and disability fund; excludes noncontributory payments made under the Panama Canal Construction Annuity Act. Through June 1948, retirement and disability benefits include payments to survivors under joint and survivor elections.

3 Pensions and compensation, and subsistence payments to disabled veterans undergoing training; beginning July 1955, payments on estimated basis and adjusted quarterly.

4 Mother's, widow's, widower's, parent's, and child's benefits; partly estimated.

5 Annuities to widows under joint and survivor elections and, beginning February 1947, survivor benefits—widow's, widower's (first paid December 1951), widow's current, parent's, and child's benefits.

6 Payments to widows, parents, and children of deceased veterans; beginning 1955, data for beneficiaries shown as of end of quarter; beginning July 1955, payments on estimated basis and adjusted quarterly.

7 Number of decedents on whose account lump-sum payments were made.

8 Payments under the Railroad Retirement Act and Federal civil-service and veterans' programs; beginning July 1955, data for veterans' programs on estimated basis.

9 Represents average number of beneficiaries in a 14-day registration period; temporary disability benefits first payable July 1947.

10 Represents average weekly number of beneficiaries; beginning January 1955 includes data for payments to unemployed Federal workers made by the States as agents of the Federal Government.

11 Beginning September 1944, under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, readjustment allowances to unemployed and self-employed veterans of World War II. Beginning November 1952, under the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act, unemployment compensation benefits to veterans with military service since June 1950. Number represents average weekly claims paid.

12 Not available.

13 Payments: under the Social Security Act annual data represent Treasury disbursements and under the Railroad Retirement Act, amounts certified (for both programs monthly data for monthly benefits represent benefits in current-payment status); under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, amounts certified; for Veterans Administration programs, except the readjustment allowance program, disbursements; under the State unemployment insurance laws, the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, and the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act, checks issued; for civil-service programs, disbursements through June 1949 and authorizations beginning July 1949. Adjusted on annual basis except for civil-service data and payments under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, which are adjusted monthly.

Source: Based on reports of administrative agencies.

**Table 2.—*Contributions and taxes collected under selected social insurance and related programs, by specified period, 1953–56***

[In thousands]

| Period | Retirement, disability, and survivors insurance | | | Unemployment insurance | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Federal insurance contributions [1] | Federal civil-service contributions [2] | Taxes on carriers and their employees | State unemployment contributions [3] | Federal unemployment taxes [4] | Railroad unemployment insurance contributions [5] |
| Fiscal year: | | | | | | |
| 1953–54 | $4,589,182 | $464,363 | $603,042 | $1,246,230 | $285,135 | $27,656 |
| 1954–55 [6] | 5,087,154 | 469,856 | 600,106 | 1,142,009 | 279,986 | 23,720 |
| 8 months ended: | | | | | | |
| February 1954 | 2,420,936 | 326,568 | 416,144 | 901,090 | 256,293 | 11,476 |
| February 1955 | 2,689,362 | 301,236 | 402,613 | 767,319 | 238,109 | 12,823 |
| February 1956 | (7) | 601,318 | 420,078 | 851,643 | 310,938 | 14,431 |
| 1955 | | | | | | |
| February | 274,568 | 33,726 | 63,716 | 120,179 | 167,245 | 991 |
| March | 562,399 | 39,872 | 46,374 | 7,580 | 19,792 | 5,349 |
| April | 317,541 | 37,491 | 19,796 | 128,198 | 4,488 | 42 |
| May | 814,133 | 45,501 | 79,650 | 232,027 | 14,896 | 985 |
| June [6] | 703,719 | 45,755 | 51,673 | 6,886 | 2,701 | 4,522 |
| July | 217,239 | [8] 275,775 | 15,484 | 116,423 | 2,433 | 120 |
| August | 923,619 | 55,204 | 84,970 | 242,213 | 15,714 | 3,554 |
| September | 519,117 | 42,754 | 59,775 | 7,065 | 770 | 2,399 |
| October | 221,517 | 47,817 | 18,031 | 87,766 | 3,855 | 204 |
| November | 704,700 | 48,721 | 84,769 | 184,576 | 14,014 | 2,038 |
| December | 340,055 | 47,326 | 54,691 | 12,346 | 1,156 | 4,142 |
| 1956 | | | | | | |
| January | 186,056 | 52,318 | 17,300 | 71,035 | 31,850 | 102 |
| February | (7) | 31,404 | 85,058 | 130,219 | 241,146 | 1,872 |

[1] Represents contributions of employees and employers in employments covered by old-age and survivors insurance (beginning December 1952, adjusted for employee-tax refunds); from May 1951, includes deposits made in the trust fund by States under voluntary coverage agreements; beginning January 1951, on an estimated basis.

[2] Represents employee and Government contributions to the civil-service retirement and disability fund; Government contributions are made in 1 month for the entire fiscal year.

[3] Represents deposits in State clearing accounts of contributions plus penalties and interest collected from employers and, in 3 jurisdictions, contributions from mployees; excludes contributions collected for deposit in State sickness insurance funds. Data reported by State agencies.

[4] Represents taxes paid by employers under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act.

[5] Beginning 1947, also covers temporary disability insurance.

[6] Except for State unemployment insurance contributions, monthly data and fiscal-year totals as shown in the *Final Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the U. S. Government for the Period from July 1, 1954 through June 30, 1955.*

[7] Not available.

[8] Includes contributions from the Federal Government.

Source: *Monthly Statement of the U. S. Treasury* and other Treasury reports, unless otherwise noted.

# *Recent Publications**

## Social Security Administration

BUREAU OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. *Public Assistance Under the Social Security Act: Old-Age Assistance, Aid to Dependent Children, Aid to the Blind, Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled.* Washington: The Bureau. 1955. 21 pp. Processed.

Describes the public assistance programs and explains the responsibilities of the Federal agency and State governments under the Social Security Act. Limited free distribution; apply to the Bureau of Public Assistance, Social Security Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

* Prepared in the Library, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Orders for items listed should be directed to publishers and booksellers; Federal publications for which prices are listed should be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

CHILDREN'S BUREAU. *Motion Pictures on Child Life.* (Supplement No. 2.) Compiled by Inez D. Lohr. Washington: U. S. Govt. Print. Off., 1956. 12 pp. 15 cents.

CHILDREN'S BUREAU and BUREAU OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. *Interviewing for Staff Selection in Public Welfare.* (Children's Bureau Publication No. 355.) Washington: U. S. Govt. Print. Off., 1956. 24 pp. 15 cents.

A report of the national workshop held at the New York School of Social Work in 1954.

## General

FOOTE, NELSON N., and COTTRELL, LEONARD S., JR. *Identity and Interpersonal Competence: A New Direction in Family Research.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1955. 305 pp. $5.

HERRERA GUITIERREZ, ALFONSO. *Problemas Tecnicos y Juridicos del Seguro Social.* Mexico City: Imprenta "Galeza," 1955. 298 pp.

Issues in the judicial interpretation of Mexico's social insurance laws and regulations.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE. *National Employment Services: United States.* Prepared by the Bureau of Employment Security, U. S. Department of Labor. Geneva: The Office, 1955. 165 pp. $1.

Considers the general administrative organization of the U. S. Employment Service; describes its functions, program, and procedures; and discusses the organization and operation of advisory committees, staff recruitment and training, research activities, and private employment agencies.

NORWEGIAN JOINT COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL POLICY. *Social Insurance in Norway.* Oslo: The Committee, 1955. 115 pp.

A survey of health insurance, accident insurance, old-age pensions, disability pension insurance, pension plans for special groups, family allowances, and unemployment insurance.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS. *Economic Forces in the U. S. A. in Facts and Figures.* Prepared in cooperation with the International Cooperation

**Table 3.—*Status of the old-age and survivors insurance trust fund, by specified period, 1937–56***

[In thousands]

| Period | Receipts | | Expenditures | | Assets | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Net contribution income and transfers [1] | Interest received [2] | Benefit payments | Administrative expenses [3] | Net total of U. S. Government securities acquired [4] | Unexpended balance [5] at end of period | Total assets at end of period |
| Cumulative, January 1937–January 1956 [6] | $38,747,898 | $3,671,535 | $20,119,071 | $898,369 | $20,854,459 | $547,533 | $21,401,992 |
| Fiscal year: | | | | | | | |
| 1953–54 | 4,589,182 | 450,504 | 3,275,556 | 88,636 | 1,522,270 | 702,752 | 20,042,615 |
| 1954–55 [6] | 5,087,154 | 447,580 | 4,333,147 | 103,202 | 1,240,627 | 560,511 | 21,141,001 |
| 7 months ended: | | | | | | | |
| January 1954 | 1,811,711 | 216,963 | 1,828,590 | 50,714 | 327,644 | 370,489 | 18,515,727 |
| January 1955 | 2,414,793 | 234,878 | 2,314,800 | 56,029 | 409,226 | 572,368 | 20,321,458 |
| January 1956 | 3,112,303 | 248,626 | 3,027,074 | 72,865 | 273,968 | 547,533 | 21,401,992 |
| 1955 | | | | | | | |
| January | 114,438 | 764 | 361,216 | 8,323 | −113,430 | 572,368 | 20,321,458 |
| February | 274,568 | 2,186 | 373,339 | 8,856 | −122,944 | 589,870 | 20,216,016 |
| March | 562,399 | 13,366 | 390,013 | 8,853 | 211,562 | 555,207 | 20,392,915 |
| April | 317,541 | 17,825 | 407,445 | 8,823 | −205,664 | 679,969 | 20,312,013 |
| May | 814,133 | 4,083 | 419,844 | 11,561 | 412,200 | 654,579 | 20,698,823 |
| June [6] | 703,719 | 175,243 | 427,705 | 9,079 | 536,246 | 560,511 | 21,141,001 |
| July | 217,239 | [7] 7,439 | 423,430 | 11,131 | 266,104 | 84,524 | 20,931,119 |
| August | 923,619 | 1,330 | 428,390 | 10,241 | 438,002 | 132,840 | 21,417,437 |
| September | 519,117 | 15,330 | 428,522 | 9,976 | −269,558 | 498,347 | 21,513,386 |
| October | 221,517 | 18,127 | 434,163 | 9,770 | −228,059 | 522,116 | 21,309,097 |
| November | 704,700 | 4,219 | 436,644 | 12,542 | 179,000 | 602,849 | 21,568,830 |
| December | 340,055 | 201,141 | 437,443 | 9,479 | 135,884 | 561,238 | 21,663,104 |
| 1956 | | | | | | | |
| January | 186,056 | [8] 1,041 | 438,481 | 9,727 | −247,406 | 547,533 | 21,401,992 |

[1] For July 1940 to December 1950 equals taxes collected; beginning January 1951, equals amounts appropriated (estimated tax collections) and, from May 1951, deposits by States under voluntary coverage agreements. For 1947–51 includes amounts appropriated to meet costs of benefits payable to certain veterans' survivors. Beginning 1952, includes deductions to adjust for reimbursement to the General Treasury of the estimated amount of taxes subject to refund for employees who paid contributions on more than $3,600 a year (through working for more than 1 employer)—$66 million in October 1955 for 1954 taxes.

[2] Includes interest transferred from the railroad retirement account under the financial interchange provision of the Railroad Retirement Act, as amended in 1951. See footnote 7.

[3] Represents net expenditures for administration. Beginning November 1951, adjusted for reimbursements to trust fund of small amounts for sales of supplies and services. Beginning October 1953, includes amounts for expenses of plans and preparations for construction authorized by P.L. 170, 83d Cong., 1st sess.

[4] Includes accrued interest and repayments on account of accrued interest on bonds at time of purchase.

[5] Beginning April 1955, the two Treasury account items of the trust fund called "cash with disbursing officer" and "credit of fund account" were consolidated into a single item. For separate detail through March 1955, see earlier issues of the *Bulletin*.

[6] Fiscal-year and cumulative totals and June 1955 data revised to correspond with *Final Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the U. S. Government for the Period from July 1, 1954 through June 30, 1955.*

[7] Represents interest transferred from the railroad retirement account—in July 1955 on $330.6 million for the fiscal year 1954–55—on the estimated amount that would place the old-age and survivors insurance trust fund in the same position it would have been in at the beginning of the fiscal year if railroad employment had always been covered under old-age and survivors insurance.

[8] Includes $50,781 profit to the fund on sale of securities.

Source: *Monthly Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the U. S. Government* and unpublished Treasury report.


Administration. (4th ed.) Washington: U. S. Govt. Print. Off., 1955. 104 pp. 55 cents.

U. S. Library of Congress. Legislative Reference Service. *The Provision of Federal Benefits for Veterans.* (House Committee Print No. 171, 84th Cong., 1st sess.) Washington: U. S. Govt. Print. Off., 1955. 305 pp.

Analyzes major veterans' legislation, 1862–1954, under the following headings: disability payments, service pensions, dependent's benefits, medical and hospital care, education and vocational rehabilitation, insurance, domiciliary care, and employment preferences.


## Retirement and Old Age


Douglas, Martha. *A Preparation for Retirement Program.* (Publication No. 109.) Chicago: Research Council for Economic Security, 1955. 8 pp.

Johnson, Harry J. "Thinking Ahead: The Problems of Retirement." *Harvard Business Review,* Boston, Vol. 34, Mar.-Apr. 1956, p. 21 ff. $2.

Reviews the findings of a recent study by the Life Extension Foundation.

McGill, Dan M., editor. *Pensions: Problems and Trends.* Homewood, Ill.: Published for the S. S. Huebner Foundation for Insurance Education, University of Pennsylvania, by Richard D. Irwin, Inc., 1955. 211 pp. $4.50.

Includes Public and Private Pension Plans, by Dan M. McGill; Characteristics of Insured Pension Plans, by Frederick P. Perkins; Pensions—Meeting Price Level Changes, by William C. Greenough; Preparation for Life After Retirement, by Robert L. B. Roessle; and Comparison of American and Foreign Pension Planning, by John K. Dyer, Jr.

U. S. Department of Agriculture. Agricultural Marketing Service. *The Farmer and Old-Age Security: A Summary Analysis of Four Studies, 1951–54.* Prepared by I. M. Baill. (Agriculture Information Bulletin No. 151.) Washington: U. S. Govt. Print. Off., 1956. 43 pp. 25 cents.

Summary of studies made by the Agricultural Experiment Stations in Connecticut, Kentucky, Texas, and Wisconsin.


## Public Welfare


Council of Social Work Education. *Education for Social Work. Proceedings, Third Annual Program Meeting, 1955.* New York: The Council, 1955. 52 pp. $2.

Includes New Developments in Education for Social Work, by Ernest F. Witte; Curriculum Policy and Educational Practice, by Katherine A. Kendall; and The Shortage of Social Workers—A Challenge to Social Work Education, by Fedele F. Fauri.

Council of Social Work Education.


(*Continued on page 31*)

**Table 4.—*Old-age and survivors insurance: Monthly benefits in current-payment status*[1] *at the end of the month, by type of benefit and by month, February 1955–February 1956, and monthly benefits awarded, February 1956***

[Amounts in thousands; data corrected to Mar. 21, 1956]

| Item | Total | | Old-age | | Wife's or husband's | | Child's | | Widow's or widower's | | Mother's | | Parent's | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Amount | Number | Amount | Number | Amount | Number | Amount | Number | Amount | Number | Amount | Number | Amount |
| Monthly benefits in current-payment status at end of month: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February | 7,085,880 | $353,221.5 | 3,907,599 | $234,133.9 | 1,053,787 | $33,912.7 | 1,176,213 | $41,711.8 | 653,468 | $30,290.2 | 269,601 | $11,973.7 | 25,212 | $1,199.2 |
| March | 7,200,805 | 361,237.0 | 3,984,511 | 240,345.9 | 1,075,282 | 34,828.1 | 1,182,866 | 42,067.8 | 662,406 | 30,746.1 | 270,486 | 12,046.3 | 25,254 | 1,202.7 |
| April | 7,330,359 | 369,642.2 | 4,066,731 | 246,611.0 | 1,096,539 | 35,682.7 | 1,195,455 | 42,633.9 | 672,480 | 31,262.8 | 273,805 | 12,243.1 | 25,349 | 1,208.8 |
| May | 7,447,147 | 376,864.8 | 4,141,128 | 251,975.0 | 1,114,351 | 36,368.4 | 1,208,120 | 43,176.2 | 680,955 | 31,693.0 | 277,129 | 12,435.8 | 25,464 | 1,216.4 |
| June | 7,563,519 | 384,025.2 | 4,214,776 | 257,230.1 | 1,131,262 | 37,011.2 | 1,220,855 | 43,730.4 | 689,774 | 32,150.0 | 281,231 | 12,677.4 | 25,621 | 1,226.1 |
| July | 7,643,250 | 389,411.2 | 4,266,655 | 261,174.6 | 1,143,796 | 37,510.6 | 1,228,209 | 44,101.1 | 695,011 | 32,532.5 | 283,929 | 12,858.1 | 25,650 | 1,234.4 |
| August | 7,724,551 | 394,733.0 | 4,318,020 | 264,992.2 | 1,154,962 | 37,962.6 | 1,237,185 | 44,549.4 | 702,645 | 32,984.3 | 286,008 | 13,002.3 | 25,731 | 1,242.2 |
| September | 7,796,310 | 399,203.8 | 4,361,542 | 268,118.5 | 1,165,314 | 38,363.5 | 1,246,578 | 45,010.0 | 710,193 | 33,401.7 | 286,813 | 13,058.6 | 25,870 | 1,251.6 |
| October | 7,855,522 | 403,960.0 | 4,406,750 | 271,652.1 | 1,176,724 | 38,801.8 | 1,257,568 | 45,537.5 | 700,631 | 33,550.9 | 288,455 | 13,167.5 | 25,394 | 1,250.1 |
| November | 7,901,917 | 407,861.9 | 4,441,542 | 274,499.2 | 1,184,794 | 39,126.0 | 1,266,991 | 45,985.1 | 693,498 | 33,729.7 | 290,039 | 13,272.3 | 25,053 | 1,249.5 |
| December | 7,960,616 | 411,612.8 | 4,473,971 | 276,941.8 | 1,191,963 | 39,415.5 | 1,276,240 | 46,443.6 | 701,360 | 34,152.2 | 291,916 | 13,403.0 | 25,166 | 1,256.5 |
| 1956 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 8,003,915 | 414,669.5 | 4,497,924 | 278,944.5 | 1,197,385 | 39,668.0 | 1,281,915 | 46,782.0 | 709,569 | 34,585.9 | 291,850 | 13,425.5 | 25,272 | 1,263.6 |
| February | 8,069,862 | 419,429.8 | 4,541,282 | 282,556.5 | 1,207,832 | 40,119.4 | 1,287,480 | 47,096.4 | 715,965 | 34,932.3 | 292,003 | 13,459.1 | 25,300 | 1,266.1 |
| Monthly benefits awarded in February 1956 | 114,925 | 6,832.5 | 63,842 | 4,680.7 | 19,891 | 726.9 | 16,386 | 637.6 | 9,498 | 492.3 | 5,091 | 282.8 | 217 | 12.2 |

[1] Benefit in current-payment status is subject to no deduction or only to deduction of fixed amount that is less than the current month's benefit.

**Table 5.—*Old-age and survivors insurance: Number of monthly benefits withheld, by reason for withholding payment and type of benefit,*[1] *December 31, 1955***

[Based partly on 10-percent sample; corrected to Mar. 8, 1956]

| Reason for withholding payment [2] | Total | Old-age | | | Wife's or husband's | | | | Widow's or widower's | Mother's | Parent's |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Total | Men | Women | Total | Wives, aged 65 and over | Wives, under age 65 | Husband's | | | |
| Total | 301,323 | 188,102 | 156,450 | 31,652 | 41,607 | 36,474 | 4,754 | 379 | 4,456 | 67,095 | 63 |
| Covered or noncovered employment [3] of beneficiary in United States or covered employment [3] of beneficiary outside United States | 248,600 | 179,722 | 149,474 | 30,248 | 3,607 | 2,290 | 1,317 | 0 | 3,320 | 61,939 | 12 |
| Noncovered employment [3] of beneficiary outside United States | 470 | 334 | 294 | 40 | 18 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 104 | 1 |
| Covered or noncovered employment [3] in United States or covered employment [3] outside United States of old-age beneficiary on whose earnings benefit is based | 36,136 | | | | 36,136 | 33,024 | 2,743 | 369 | | | |
| Noncovered employment [3] outside United States of old-age beneficiary on whose earnings benefit is based | 110 | | | | 110 | 100 | 10 | 0 | | | |
| Failure to have care of an entitled child | 3,877 | | | | 541 | | 541 | | | 3,336 | |
| Payee not determined | 2,314 | 1,600 | 1,210 | 390 | 224 | 204 | 20 | 0 | 323 | 153 | 14 |
| Administrative reasons | 9,816 | 6,446 | 5,472 | 974 | 971 | 838 | 123 | 10 | 800 | 1,563 | 36 |

[1] Data for child's benefits withheld are not available.

[2] As provided for under section 203 of the amended act except for the reason "payee not determined," in which case benefit payments are accrued pending determination of guardian or appropriate payee.

[3] Includes self-employment.

**Table 6.—*Employment security: Selected data on nonfarm placements and unemployment insurance claims and benefits, by State, February 1956* [1]**

| Region and State | Nonfarm placements | Initial claims [2] | | Weeks of unemployment covered by continued claims | | Compensated unemployment | | | | | Average weekly insured unemployment under State programs [3,4] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | All types of unemployment [4] | | | Total unemployment | | |
| | | Total | Women [3] | Total | Women | Weeks compensated | Benefits paid [5] | Average weekly number of beneficiaries | Weeks compensated | Average weekly payment | |
| Total | 402,428 | 1,048,759 | 322,420 | 6,521,857 | 2,013,795 | 5,498,715 | $143,923,187 | 1,309,218 | 5,111,341 | $26.95 | [6] 1,508,221 |
| Region I: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Connecticut | 6,857 | 13,928 | 6,120 | 72,987 | 30,657 | 65,905 | 1,873,929 | 15,692 | 62,173 | 29.27 | 17,310 |
| Maine | 1,488 | 5,021 | 1,398 | 44,294 | 16,352 | 39,576 | 764,309 | 9,423 | 37,154 | 19.64 | 10,121 |
| Massachusetts | 16,764 | 30,281 | 12,952 | 202,778 | 67,101 | 180,909 | 4,558,790 | 43,074 | 169,696 | 25.63 | 46,799 |
| New Hampshire | 1,130 | 4,002 | 1,748 | 26,245 | 11,425 | 23,880 | 530,497 | 5,686 | 21,706 | 23.29 | 6,125 |
| Rhode Island | 1,371 | 10,981 | 6,225 | 60,055 | 27,278 | 52,304 | 1,344,920 | 12,453 | 47,501 | 26.76 | 14,257 |
| Vermont | 738 | 1,482 | 588 | 10,906 | 4,458 | 9,451 | 212,857 | 2,250 | 8,859 | 23.19 | 2,572 |
| Region II: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Jersey | 8,717 | 49,181 | 23,555 | 356,407 | 147,132 | 343,637 | 10,429,632 | 81,818 | 314,509 | 31.07 | 82,913 |
| New York | 60,043 | 170,899 | 64,634 | 871,208 | 317,991 | 770,077 | 21,967,607 | 183,352 | 699,996 | 29.89 | 201,843 |
| Puerto Rico | 3,367 | 217 | 46 | 1,905 | 400 | 720 | 16,677 | 171 | 700 | 23.44 | ---------- |
| Virgin Islands | 262 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ---------- |
| Region III: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Delaware | 434 | 1,647 | 488 | 11,652 | 2,663 | 10,529 | 278,066 | 2,507 | 9,823 | 27.08 | 2,711 |
| District of Columbia | 2,840 | 3,522 | 794 | 26,428 | 7,923 | 21,606 | 548,634 | 5,144 | 21,204 | 25.50 | 5,350 |
| Maryland | 4,290 | 10,536 | 2,944 | 72,083 | 20,772 | 63,760 | 1,509,649 | 15,181 | 58,487 | 24.46 | 14,989 |
| North Carolina | 9,753 | 27,183 | 13,456 | 148,437 | 71,187 | 130,074 | 2,090,918 | 30,970 | 122,049 | 16.58 | 34,356 |
| Pennsylvania | 18,730 | 104,621 | 30,677 | 664,824 | 199,370 | 579,855 | 15,690,536 | 138,061 | 534,643 | 28.03 | 156,861 |
| Virginia | 4,854 | 9,949 | 3,782 | 60,321 | 19,378 | 47,903 | 912,116 | 11,405 | 45,937 | 19.37 | 13,626 |
| West Virginia | 1,868 | 8,357 | 1,561 | 59,012 | 12,744 | 46,212 | 897,983 | 11,003 | 41,452 | 20.10 | 13,793 |
| Region IV: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alabama | 6,858 | 11,371 | 2,419 | 76,706 | 18,188 | 55,035 | 1,060,907 | 13,104 | 53,109 | 19.48 | 17,714 |
| Florida | 18,288 | 11,974 | 2,967 | 58,867 | 17,173 | 29,565 | 621,160 | 7,039 | 27,894 | 21.46 | 13,753 |
| Georgia | 8,170 | 13,719 | 5,522 | 90,088 | 43,736 | 70,209 | 1,312,290 | 16,716 | 65,073 | 19.19 | 20,463 |
| Mississippi | 6,163 | 8,978 | 1,782 | 60,024 | 12,099 | 40,277 | 770,013 | 9,590 | 37,539 | 19.67 | 13,829 |
| South Carolina | 5,661 | 8,618 | 3,043 | 51,719 | 21,219 | 41,429 | 844,944 | 9,864 | 38,667 | 20.82 | 11,966 |
| Tennessee | 7,099 | 18,717 | 6,106 | 183,961 | 59,381 | 144,554 | 2,912,096 | 34,418 | 137,950 | 20.44 | 40,233 |
| Region V: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kentucky | 3,570 | 16,077 | 3,139 | 141,963 | 31,586 | 113,657 | 2,374,956 | 27,061 | 107,576 | 21.34 | 32,915 |
| Michigan | 10,549 | 87,221 | 16,868 | 360,735 | 85,777 | 290,327 | 9,529,891 | 69,125 | 280,621 | 33.35 | 96,809 |
| Ohio | 21,896 | 44,456 | 13,204 | 263,883 | 81,036 | 219,695 | 6,588,577 | 52,308 | 208,210 | 30.76 | 62,810 |
| Region VI: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Illinois | 16,281 | 38,973 | 14,207 | 274,474 | 98,189 | 221,790 | 5,422,042 | 52,807 | 196,813 | 25.83 | 62,088 |
| Indiana | 5,545 | 28,973 | 8,364 | 147,022 | 46,174 | 125,760 | 3,125,128 | 29,943 | 116,208 | 25.74 | 35,128 |
| Minnesota | 5,629 | 11,162 | 2,528 | 152,800 | 30,024 | 135,241 | 3,219,263 | 32,200 | 129,047 | 24.15 | 35,696 |
| Wisconsin | 5,943 | 11,877 | 3,603 | 104,178 | 30,712 | 88,746 | 2,581,485 | 21,130 | 82,695 | 29.48 | 24,135 |
| Region VII: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Iowa | 4,815 | 6,837 | 1,652 | 56,681 | 14,117 | 46,350 | 1,116,799 | 11,036 | 41,936 | 25.09 | 13,358 |
| Kansas | 5,825 | 7,579 | 1,458 | 62,804 | 12,009 | 58,922 | 1,540,560 | 14,029 | 55,175 | 26.79 | 14,195 |
| Missouri | 6,079 | 19,936 | 5,633 | 149,029 | 39,013 | 116,510 | 2,442,369 | 27,740 | 108,095 | 21.76 | 34,403 |
| Nebraska | 3,394 | 3,633 | 1,025 | 41,366 | 9,384 | 37,716 | 931,462 | 8,980 | 36,161 | 25.23 | 9,166 |
| North Dakota | 1,030 | 1,542 | 221 | 23,688 | 2,532 | 20,821 | 554,338 | 4,957 | 19,008 | 27.19 | 5,317 |
| South Dakota | 738 | 1,249 | 263 | 17,204 | 2,554 | 13,655 | 315,820 | 3,251 | 12,984 | 23.44 | 3,941 |
| Region VIII: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arkansas | 4,853 | 11,406 | 1,821 | 81,571 | 16,565 | 49,210 | 922,766 | 11,717 | 45,908 | 19.16 | 17,849 |
| Louisiana | 7,154 | 13,558 | 2,133 | 78,063 | 13,147 | 63,687 | 1,355,337 | 15,164 | 57,309 | 22.26 | 18,197 |
| Oklahoma | 8,676 | 9,755 | 2,516 | 65,864 | 15,573 | 44,615 | 1,059,734 | 10,623 | 41,371 | 24.45 | 14,707 |
| Texas | 37,938 | 23,337 | 4,658 | 124,678 | 30,551 | 99,365 | 2,135,366 | 23,658 | 96,760 | 21,72 | 28,048 |
| Region IX: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Colorado | 4,269 | 5,489 | 802 | 26,446 | 4,777 | 21,248 | 530,243 | 5,059 | 20,108 | 25.39 | 6,105 |
| Montana | 1,869 | 3,986 | 662 | 39,736 | 7,098 | 32,927 | 784,862 | 7,840 | 32,927 | 23.73 | 8,770 |
| New Mexico | 2,491 | 3,066 | 344 | 19,187 | 2,278 | 15,946 | 385,160 | 3,797 | 15,165 | 24.51 | 4,627 |
| Utah | 1,617 | 5,181 | 784 | 33,043 | 10,068 | 29,061 | 762,462 | 6,919 | 26,598 | 27.16 | 7,538 |
| Wyoming | 781 | 2,016 | 362 | 14,447 | 2,564 | 13,120 | 375,023 | 3,124 | 12,364 | 28.91 | 3,360 |
| Region X: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arizona | 3,862 | 5,368 | 825 | 28,834 | 5,181 | 19,676 | 505,942 | 4,685 | 18,701 | 26.14 | 6,596 |
| California | 30,126 | 100,763 | 33,108 | 555,542 | 196,840 | 448,819 | 12,354,898 | 106,862 | 416,588 | 28.43 | 128,325 |
| Hawaii | 596 | 2,576 | 721 | 21,483 | 11,109 | 17,805 | 374,703 | 4,239 | 12,278 | 24.89 | (7) |
| Nevada | 1,328 | 3,299 | 761 | 21,440 | 5,951 | 20,567 | 647,086 | 4,897 | 19,415 | 31.98 | 4,930 |
| Region XI: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alaska | 587 | 1,218 | 165 | 22,958 | 2,550 | 28,175 | 974,498 | 6,708 | 27,241 | 34.87 | (7) |
| Idaho | 1,825 | 2,952 | 456 | 36,979 | 5,570 | 30,320 | 823,190 | 7,219 | 29,099 | 27.43 | 8,265 |
| Oregon | 3,394 | 19,915 | 2,570 | 127,634 | 28,382 | 112,164 | 3,327,207 | 26,706 | 107,071 | 30.03 | 29,891 |
| Washington | 4,023 | 30,172 | 4,760 | 217,218 | 43,857 | 195,353 | 5,713,490 | 46,513 | 181,788 | 29.78 | 49,465 |

[1] Includes, except as otherwise noted, data for the Federal employees' unemployment insurance program, administered by the States as agents of the Federal Government.
[2] Total excludes transitional claims.
[3] Excludes claims filed solely under the Federal employees' unemployment insurance program.
[4] Total, part-total, and partial.
[5] Not adjusted for voided benefit checks and transfers under interstate combined-wage plan.
[6] Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.
[7] Data not available.

Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Security, and affiliated State agencies.

## Table 7.—*Public assistance in the United States, by month, February 1955–February 1956* [1]

[Except for general assistance, includes vendor payments for medical care and cases receiving only such payments]

| Year and month | Total [2] | Old-age assistance | Aid to dependent children: Families | Aid to dependent children: Recipients: Total [3] | Aid to dependent children: Recipients: Children | Aid to the blind | Aid to the permanently and totally disabled | General assistance (cases) | Total | Old-age assistance | Aid to dependent children (families) | Aid to the blind | Aid to the permanently and totally disabled | General assistance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number of recipients | | | | | | | | Percentage change from previous month | | | | | |
| **1955** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February | ............ | 2,553,776 | 617,692 | 2,227,501 | 1,680,549 | 102,804 | 227,490 | 380,000 | ........ | −0.2 | +1.2 | +0.2 | +0.7 | +2.5 |
| March | ............ | 2,552,881 | 624,235 | 2,253,174 | 1,699,626 | 103,045 | 229,892 | 381,000 | ........ | [4] | +1.1 | +.2 | +1.1 | +.3 |
| April | ............ | 2,550,724 | 626,182 | 2,261,283 | 1,706,164 | 103,382 | 232,346 | 357,000 | ........ | −.1 | +.3 | +.3 | +1.1 | −6.3 |
| May | ............ | 2,547,965 | 625,430 | 2,260,962 | 1,705,832 | 103,654 | 234,649 | 330,000 | ........ | −.1 | −.1 | +.3 | +1.0 | −7.7 |
| June | ............ | 2,548,503 | 620,303 | 2,239,328 | 1,691,613 | 103,902 | 236,828 | 310,000 | ........ | [5] | −.8 | +.2 | +.9 | −5.9 |
| July | ............ | 2,550,101 | 611,578 | 2,209,299 | 1,668,914 | 104,140 | 238,763 | 297,000 | ........ | +.1 | −1.4 | +.2 | +.8 | −4.1 |
| August | ............ | 2,551,615 | 607,822 | 2,199,090 | 1,661,809 | 104,164 | 240,299 | 297,000 | ........ | +.1 | −.6 | [5] | +.6 | −.1 |
| September | ............ | 2,552,536 | 604,457 | 2,191,138 | 1,656,814 | 104,249 | 240,870 | 290,000 | ........ | [5] | −.6 | +.1 | +.2 | −2.4 |
| October | ............ | 2,552,991 | 598,459 | 2,171,169 | 1,642,869 | 104,444 | 242,320 | 286,000 | ........ | [5] | −1.0 | +.2 | +.6 | −1.3 |
| November | ............ | 2,554,709 | 598,112 | 2,173,222 | 1,644,728 | 104,718 | 242,122 | 297,000 | ........ | +.1 | −.1 | +.3 | −.1 | +3.8 |
| December | ............ | 2,552,832 | 602,787 | 2,193,215 | 1,661,206 | 104,858 | 244,007 | 314,000 | ........ | −.1 | +.8 | +.1 | +.8 | +5.9 |
| **1956** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | ............ | 2,545,576 | 605,674 | 2,205,913 | 1,670,728 | 104,947 | 245,210 | 331,000 | ........ | −.3 | +.5 | +.1 | +.5 | +5.1 |
| February | ............ | 2,538,518 | 608,628 | 2,220,653 | 1,682,363 | 104,772 | 247,117 | 336,000 | ........ | −.3 | +.5 | −.2 | +.8 | +1.6 |
| | Amount of assistance | | | | | | | | Percentage change from previous month | | | | | |
| **1955** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February | $230,493,000 | $132,053,661 | $53,192,939 | | | $5,822,423 | $12,421,584 | $21,515,000 | +0.3 | −0.7 | +1.6 | +0.5 | +1.2 | +2.7 |
| March | 232,724,000 | 132,393,704 | 54,078,960 | | | 5,848,702 | 12,647,701 | 21,915,000 | +1.0 | +.3 | +1.7 | +.5 | +1.8 | +1.9 |
| April | 230,874,000 | 132,351,618 | 54,273,669 | | | 5,873,069 | 12,808,950 | 19,922,000 | −.8 | [4] | +.4 | +.4 | +1.3 | −9.1 |
| May | 229,468,000 | 132,674,197 | 54,229,682 | | | 5,898,355 | 12,895,336 | 17,947,000 | −.6 | +.2 | −.1 | +.4 | +.7 | −9.9 |
| June | 228,480,000 | 133,292,041 | 53,830,416 | | | 5,964,848 | 13,009,522 | 16,675,000 | −.4 | +.5 | −.7 | +1.1 | +.9 | −7.1 |
| July | 227,683,000 | 134,267,369 | 52,998,023 | | | 5,906,557 | 13,188,555 | 15,941,000 | −.3 | +.7 | −1.5 | −1.0 | +1.4 | −4.4 |
| August | 226,881,000 | 133,649,806 | 52,770,265 | | | 5,888,035 | 13,300,930 | 15,717,000 | −.4 | −.5 | −.4 | −.3 | +.9 | −1.4 |
| September | 227,087,000 | 133,999,430 | 52,851,801 | | | 5,945,057 | 13,284,871 | 15,366,000 | +.1 | +.3 | +.2 | +1.0 | −.1 | −2.2 |
| October | 228,828,000 | 136,034,539 | 52,512,850 | | | 6,039,250 | 13,450,637 | 15,185,000 | +.8 | +1.5 | −.6 | +1.6 | +1.2 | −1.2 |
| November | 230,410,000 | 136,805,741 | 52,580,182 | | | 6,054,577 | 13,458,492 | 15,857,000 | +.7 | +.6 | +.1 | +.3 | +.1 | +4.4 |
| December | 234,133,000 | 137,666,717 | 53,415,398 | | | 6,090,772 | 13,709,025 | 17,293,000 | +1.6 | +.6 | +1.6 | +.6 | +1.9 | +9.1 |
| **1956** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 235,480,000 | 138,276,533 | 53,474,008 | | | 6,100,996 | 13,784,271 | 18,012,000 | +.6 | +.4 | +.1 | +.2 | +.5 | +4.2 |
| February | 235,733,000 | 137,284,906 | 54,051,818 | | | 6,110,375 | 13,943,767 | 18,505,000 | +.1 | −.7 | +1.1 | +.2 | +1.2 | +2.7 |

[1] For definition of terms see the *Bulletin*, January 1953, p. 16. All data subject to revision.

[2] Total exceeds sum of columns because of inclusion of vendor payments for medical care from general assistance funds and from special medical funds; data for such expenditures partly estimated for some States.

[3] Includes as recipients the children and 1 parent or other adult relative in families in which the requirements of at least 1 such adult were considered in determining the amount of assistance.

[4] Decrease of less than 0.05 percent.

[5] Increase of less than 0.05 percent.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**(*Continued from page 28*)**

Committee on Admissions. *Selection of Students for Schools of Social Work: The National Workshop on Admissions, 1953, and Progress in Implementation of Recommendations, 1954 and 1955.* New York: The Council, 1955. 84 pp. $1.50.

Davis, Alice Taylor. "Consultation: A Function in Public Welfare Administration." *Social Casework*, New York, Vol. 37, Mar. 1956, pp. 113–119. 50 cents.

Folsom, Marion B. "Statesmanship in Social Welfare." *Public Welfare*, Chicago, Vol. 14, Jan. 1956, pp. 82–83 ff. $1.

Address at the Conference of the American Public Welfare Association, held in Washington, December 1955.

International Conference of Social Work. *Self-Help in Social Welfare: Proceedings of the Seventh International Conference of Social Work, Toronto, June–July 1954.* Bombay, India: The Conference, The Southeast Asia Regional Office, 1955. 342 pp. $3.

Schottland, Charles I. "Public Welfare Comes of Age." *Public Welfare*, Chicago, Vol. 14. Jan. 1956, pp. 84–90 f. $1.

Address at the December conference of the American Public Welfare Association.

"Silver Anniversary Round Table Issue." *Public Welfare*, Chicago, Vol. 14, Jan. 1956, entire issue. $1.

Discussions on aging, children, international welfare, medical care, and current issues in social security.

Thailand. Ministry of the Interior. Department of Public Welfare. *Public Welfare in Thailand.* Bangkok: The Department, 1955. 53 pp.

The development of the Department of Welfare and its present operations and plans.

Tickton, Sidney G. *Government Payments to the Aged or for Their Public Care in the State of New York: In the Past, at Present, and a Decade Ahead.* New York: The Seventh Co., Inc., 1956. 86 pp.

Source material on the number of aged persons in the State; the amount of government payments to the aged or for their care in hospitals, nursing homes, and related institutions; and the sources of the funds.

United Nations. Bureau of Social Affairs. *Social Progress Through Community Development.* New York: United Nations, 1955. 120 pp. $1.

Wolins, Martin. "Social Science and Social Work: An Appraisal of Interdependence." *Child Welfare,*

## Table 8.—*Amount of vendor payments for medical care for recipients of public assistance, by program and State, February 1956* [1]

| State | Old-age assistance | Aid to dependent children | Aid to the blind | Aid to the permanently and totally disabled | General assistance [2] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | $11,194,417 | $1,991,944 | $293,430 | $2,047,934 | [3] $5,837,000 |
| Alabama | *1,991* | *539* | ---- | *506* | 11 |
| Alaska | ---- | ---- | ---- | (4) | 23,825 |
| California | 202,073 | ---- | 17,095 | (4) | 70,154 |
| Colorado | ---- | ---- | *65* | ---- | (5) |
| Connecticut | 282,047 | 85,520 | 5,100 | 69,399 | (5) |
| District of Columbia | *503* | *220* | *23* | *640* | 307 |
| Hawaii | 18,524 | 6,213 | 990 | 15,504 | (5) |
| Illinois | 1,849,669 | 246,486 | 58,045 | 255,131 | 574,720 |
| Indiana | 447,820 | 82,001 | 17,896 | (4) | 196,230 |
| Iowa | ---- | ---- | ---- | (4) | 211,317 |
| Kansas | *221,249* | *43,422* | *4,063* | *36,180* | 43,598 |
| Louisiana | *76* | 3,385 | 143 | 1,679 | 1,574 |
| Maine | 49,276 | 13,356 | 1,599 | 3,288 | 46,663 |
| Massachusetts | 2,067,402 | 134,266 | *2,499* | 510,013 | 128,077 |
| Michigan | 163,031 | ---- | 2,565 | 26,854 | 90,772 |
| Minnesota | 1,282,048 | 110,187 | 39,248 | 8,941 | 231,409 |
| Montana | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 159,811 |
| Nebraska | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 163,159 |
| Nevada | 6,656 | ---- | ---- | (4) | 71,400 |
| New Hampshire | 72,828 | 13,730 | 2,421 | 5,520 | (5) |
| New Jersey | ---- | *15,398* | *99* | ---- | 151,494 |
| New Mexico | 29,226 | 34,625 | 1,824 | 6,384 | 2,289 |
| New York | 2,183,084 | 745,852 | 81,435 | 834,313 | (5) |
| North Carolina | 22,655 | 12,127 | ---- | 9,858 | 184,857 |
| North Dakota | 126,342 | 16,479 | 239 | 26,516 | 28,813 |
| Ohio | 282,284 | *19,953* | *5,850* | ---- | 916,250 |
| Oregon | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 203,479 |
| Pennsylvania | 152,701 | 128,589 | 30,434 | 51,071 | 82,319 |
| Rhode Island | 50,970 | 34,300 | 1,272 | 17,640 | 43,267 |
| South Carolina | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 11,172 |
| South Dakota | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 95,031 |
| Utah | *963* | *1,064* | *91* | *552* | 465 |
| Virgin Islands | 350 | 111 | 16 | 49 | 114 |
| Virginia | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 8,121 |
| Washington | 1,148,771 | 128,721 | 8,855 | 128,957 | 117,298 |
| Wisconsin | *531,878* | *115,400* | *11,563* | *38,939* | 133,639 |
| Wyoming | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 38,607 |

[1] For the special types of public assistance figures in italics represent payments made without Federal participation. States not shown made no vendor payments during the month or did not report such payments.

[2] In all States except California, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Utah, and the Virgin Islands includes payments made on behalf of recipients of the special types of public assistance.

[3] Includes an estimated amount for States making vendor payments for medical care from general assistance funds and from special medical funds and reporting these data semiannually but not on a monthly basis.

[4] No program for aid to the permanently and totally disabled.

[5] Data not available.

New York, Vol. 35, Feb. 1956, pp. 11–15. 35 cents.

### Child Welfare

BRIELAND, DONALD. "Some Problems in Developing Research on Adoption." *Child Welfare*, New York, Vol. 35, Feb. 1956, pp. 17–21. 35 cents.

CANADA. DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE. RESEARCH DIVISION. *Mothers' Allowances Legislation in Canada*. (Memorandum No. 1, Social Security Series, rev. ed.) Ottawa: The Department, 1955. 85 pp. Processed.

The Provincial programs — their administration, financing, coverage, benefits, and special services.

COLORADO. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE. LIBRARY. "Foster Care for Children." *The Library Counselor*, Denver, Vol. 11, Jan. 1956, entire issue.

An annotated bibliography.

GLUECK, ELEANOR T. "Identifying Juvenile Delinquents and Neurotics." *Mental Hygiene*, New York, Vol. 40, Jan. 1956, pp. 24–43. $1.50.

POLLAK, GERTRUDE K. "Principles of Positive Parent-Child Relationships in Family Life Education." *Social Casework*, New York, Vol. 37, Mar. 1956, pp. 131–135. 50 cents.

TROUT, LOUISE K. "Services to Unmarried Mothers." *Child Welfare*, New York, Vol. 35, Feb. 1956, pp. 21–26. 35 cents.

"Efforts of a children's agency to provide adequate services to meet the needs of unwed mothers."

VERHOESTRAETE, LOUIS J. "International Aspects of Maternal and Child Health: Variation in Problems with Differences in Technical Development." *American Journal of Public Health*, New York, Vol. 46, Jan. 1956, pp. 19–29. $1.

### Health and Medical Care

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKERS. *Social Work Practice in Medical Care and Rehabilitation Settings.* Monograph I—*The Evolving Concept of Rehabilitation;* Monograph II—*Teamwork: Philosophy and Principles.* Washington: The Association, 1955. 2 vols. 35 cents each.

In the first monograph are New Horizons in Rehabilitation, by Cecile Hillyer, and Rehabilitation as a Concept in the Utilization of Human Resources, by Frederick A. Whitehouse. The second contains Teamwork: Philosophy and Principles, by Frederick A. Whitehouse, and A Staff Study of Collaborative Effort: Principles of Collaboration, by Miriam G. Collier.

CARDWELL, VIOLA E. *Cerebral Palsy: Advances in Understanding and Care.* New York: Association for

**Table 9.—*Average payments including vendor payments for medical care, average amount of money payments, and average amount of vendor payments for assistance cases, by program and State, February 1956*** [1]

| State | Old-age assistance | | | Aid to dependent children (per family) | | | Aid to the blind | | | Aid to the permanently and totally disabled | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | All assistance [2] | Money payments to recipients [3] | Vendor payments for medical care [2] | All assistance [2] | Money payments to recipients [3] | Vendor payments for medical care [2] | All assistance [2] | Money payments to recipients [3] | Vendor payments for medical care [2] | All assistance [2] | Money payments to recipients [3] | Vendor payments for medical care [2] |
| Total, 53 States [4] | $54.08 | $49.96 | $4.41 | $88.81 | $85.65 | $3.27 | $58.32 | $55.69 | $2.80 | $56.43 | $48.75 | $8.29 |
| Alabama | 32.31 | 32.29 | *.02* | 41.13 | 41.10 | *.03* | — | — | — | 33.97 | 33.93 | *.04* |
| California | 71.63 | 71.09 | .75 | — | — | — | 88.86 | 87.53 | 1.32 | (5) | (5) | (5) |
| Colorado | — | — | — | — | — | — | 66.43 | 66.23 | *.20* | — | — | — |
| Connecticut | 88.45 | 71.45 | 17.00 | 134.67 | 118.67 | 16.00 | 94.08 | 79.08 | 15.00 | 117.60 | 84.60 | 33.00 |
| District of Columbia | 53.55 | 53.38 | *.16* | 109.49 | 109.38 | *.11* | 60.68 | 60.59 | *.09* | 61.16 | 60.88 | *.28* |
| Hawaii | 46.13 | 35.30 | 10.83 | 82.78 | 80.85 | 1.93 | 56.52 | 47.35 | 9.17 | 59.24 | 47.15 | 12.08 |
| Illinois | 60.49 | 42.03 | 20.10 | 135.31 | 124.24 | 11.09 | 67.65 | 51.72 | 16.70 | 80.08 | 42.44 | 39.22 |
| Indiana | 50.22 | 38.21 | 12.75 | 91.94 | 82.57 | 9.48 | 61.02 | 51.62 | 10.00 | (5) | (5) | (5) |
| Kansas | 66.36 | 60.18 | *6.56* | 113.42 | 104.45 | *9.45* | 71.58 | 65.65 | *6.45* | 71.47 | 62.02 | *9.82* |
| Louisiana | 54.17 | 54.17 | (6) | 72.86 | 72.68 | .18 | 50.41 | 50.34 | .07 | 44.79 | 44.66 | .12 |
| Maine | 50.46 | 46.48 | 4.00 | 84.77 | 81.77 | 3.00 | 54.10 | 51.10 | 3.00 | 58.03 | 52.12 | 6.00 |
| Massachusetts | 81.28 | 57.94 | 23.82 | 129.61 | 119.35 | 10.54 | 104.32 | 103.30 | *1.36* | 102.25 | 57.59 | 48.01 |
| Michigan | 56.76 | 55.96 | 2.26 | — | — | — | 63.90 | 63.53 | 1.44 | 74.11 | 73.01 | 10.97 |
| Minnesota | 70.14 | 45.95 | 24.92 | 125.13 | 111.59 | 13.72 | 84.24 | 52.80 | 32.22 | 57.34 | 50.90 | 7.99 |
| Nevada | 57.49 | 55.88 | 2.56 | — | — | — | — | — | — | (5) | (5) | (5) |
| New Hampshire | 61.85 | 49.86 | 12.00 | 132.26 | 118.99 | 13.50 | 65.67 | 56.67 | 9.00 | 74.46 | 54.66 | 20.00 |
| New Jersey | — | — | — | 120.94 | 118.52 | *2.42* | 69.74 | 69.94 | *.11* | — | — | — |
| New Mexico | 47.17 | 44.01 | 3.15 | 78.65 | 72.89 | 5.76 | 47.83 | 42.95 | 4.88 | 43.89 | 40.03 | 3.86 |
| New York | 82.30 | 63.49 | 22.21 | 140.51 | 128.41 | 13.69 | 89.85 | 74.33 | 18.69 | 86.47 | 68.75 | 20.66 |
| North Carolina | 31.99 | 31.55 | .44 | 62.41 | 61.79 | .62 | — | — | — | 38.12 | 37.32 | .80 |
| North Dakota | 72.25 | 57.59 | 15.65 | 123.64 | 114.10 | 10.48 | 57.18 | 51.83 | 1.99 | 85.98 | 58.70 | 29.01 |
| Ohio | 58.82 | 55.98 | 2.84 | 92.38 | 91.18 | *1.20* | 57.08 | 55.52 | *1.56* | — | — | — |
| Pennsylvania | 46.69 | 43.86 | 2.83 | 108.11 | 103.71 | 4.40 | 51.13 | 49.29 | 1.84 | 54.91 | 51.03 | 3.88 |
| Rhode Island | 61.67 | 56.95 | 6.35 | 115.03 | 105.03 | 10.00 | 71.39 | 65.30 | 7.66 | 75.92 | 67.78 | 11.37 |
| Utah | 60.31 | 60.21 | *.10* | 112.26 | 111.90 | *.36* | 67.02 | 66.64 | *.38* | 65.18 | 64.88 | *.30* |
| Virgin Islands | 18.57 | 18.10 | .52 | 34.99 | 34.64 | .51 | (7) | (7) | (7) | 19.11 | 18.62 | .49 |
| Washington | 82.29 | 62.50 | 20.00 | 121.25 | 107.13 | 14.25 | 91.84 | 80.34 | 11.50 | 97.69 | 74.09 | 23.87 |
| Wisconsin | 65.12 | 52.63 | *12.63* | 144.62 | 130.57 | *14.20* | 70.33 | 59.95 | *10.44* | 99.78 | 66.50 | *33.28* |

[1] Averages for general assistance not computed because of difference among States in policy or practice regarding use of general assistance funds to pay medical bills for recipients of the special types of public assistance. Figures in italics represent payments made without Federal participation. States not shown made no vendor payments during the month or did not report such payments.

[2] Averages based on cases receiving money payments, vendor payments for medical care, or both.

[3] Averages based on number of cases receiving payments. See tables 10-13 for average money payments for States not making vendor payments.

[4] For aid to the permanently and totally disabled represents data for the 45 States with programs in operation.

[5] No program for aid to the permanently and totally disabled.

[6] Less than 1 cent.

[7] Average payment not computed on base of less than 50 recipients.

the Aid of Crippled Children, 1956. 625 pp. $4.

Considers various aspects of the Association's program — service and demonstration, research, consultation, and public education.

DALAND, ROBERT T. *Government and Health.* University, Ala.: University of Alabama, Bureau of Public Administration, 1955. 218 pp.

The public health system in Alabama.

DEUTSCH, ALBERT. "States Astir Against Mental Disease." *Mental Hygiene.* New York, Vol. 40, Jan. 1956, pp. 13–23. $1.50.

KATZ, BARNEY, and THORPE, LOUIS P. *Understanding People in Distress: Emotional and Mental Disorders, Their Cause, Care, and Cure.* New York: Ronald Press Co., 1955. 357 pp. $4.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SERVICE. *Experience and Problems Under Temporary Disability Laws,* by Margaret Dahm. Washington: The Bureau, Oct. 1955. 31 pp. and 7 tables.

Describes the operations of the four State temporary disability insurance programs and that for railroad workers. Includes a discussion of the major problems encountered and the solutions developed.

U. S. OFFICE OF DEFENSE MOBILIZATION. HEALTH RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE. *Mobilization and Health Manpower: II—A Report of the Subcommittee on Paramedical Personnel in Rehabilitation and Care of the Chronically Ill.* Washington: U. S. Govt. Print. Off., 1956. 87 pp.

Includes information on physical and occupational therapy, social work, clinical and counseling psychology, rehabilitation counseling, and nursing.

U. S. PRESIDENT. *Health of the People of the Nation. Message . . .* (H. Doc. 320, 84th Cong., 2d sess.) Washington: U. S. Govt. Print. Off., 1956. 6 pp.

WADE, LEO J. "Needed: A Closer Look at Industrial Medical Plans." *Harvard Business Review,* Boston, Vol. 34, Mar.–Apr. 1956, pp. 81–90. $2.

## Table 10.—*Old-age assistance: Recipients and payments to recipients, by State, February 1956*[1]

[Includes vendor payments for medical care and cases receiving only such payments]

| State | Number of recipients | Payments to recipients: Total amount | Payments to recipients: Average | Percentage change from January 1956 in—: Number | January 1956 in—: Amount | Percentage change from February 1955 in—: Number | February 1955 in—: Amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total [2] | 2,538,518 | $137,284,906 | $54.08 | −0.3 | −0.7 | −0.6 | +4.0 |
| Ala | 97,451 | 3,148,578 | 32.31 | +1.2 | +1.3 | +54.0 | +63.8 |
| Alaska | 1,658 | 107,945 | 65.11 | −.1 | (3) | −2.5 | +.5 |
| Ariz | 14,015 | 780,656 | 55.70 | −.1 | −.3 | +3.3 | +2.2 |
| Ark | 54,577 | 1,802,242 | 33.02 | −.3 | −.4 | +3.2 | +.4 |
| Calif | 268,744 | 19,250,711 | 71.63 | −.3 | −1.0 | −.6 | +5.6 |
| Colo. [2] | 53,077 | 4,358,027 | 82.11 | −.1 | −17.3 | +.8 | +9.8 |
| Conn | 16,591 | 1,467,530 | 88.45 | −.5 | +1.3 | −1.2 | +5.4 |
| Del | 1,616 | 71,350 | 44.15 | +.1 | +.9 | −2.4 | +8.7 |
| D. C | 3,058 | 163,749 | 53.55 | −.2 | −.3 | +1.1 | +1.7 |
| Fla | 69,068 | 3,232,642 | 46.80 | −.2 | −.1 | −.1 | +1.6 |
| Ga | 98,097 | 3,741,905 | 38.14 | −.2 | −.1 | +.5 | +1.9 |
| Hawaii | 1,710 | 78,890 | 46.13 | −.9 | −3.9 | −5.7 | −8.3 |
| Idaho | 8,553 | 473,193 | 55.32 | −.2 | −.1 | −3.3 | −1.7 |
| Ill | 92,018 | 5,566,431 | 60.49 | −.6 | −.4 | −5.2 | −3.8 |
| Ind | 35,119 | 1,763,688 | 50.22 | −.8 | +.1 | −5.9 | −1.3 |
| Iowa | 40,119 | 2,425,961 | 60.47 | −.3 | −.3 | −4.8 | +.8 |
| Kans | 33,715 | 2,237,363 | 66.36 | −.1 | +1.1 | −2.0 | +.8 |
| Ky | 54,623 | 1,949,210 | 35.68 | −.4 | −.3 | −1.8 | −.5 |
| La | 120,495 | 6,527,471 | 54.17 | −.1 | +.2 | +.9 | +7.6 |
| Maine | 12,319 | 621,635 | 50.46 | −.5 | −.4 | −2.3 | +6.2 |
| Md | 10,334 | 476,268 | 46.09 | −.5 | −.2 | −2.7 | −.4 |
| Mass | 86,796 | 7,054,684 | 81.28 | −.4 | +.8 | −4.0 | +2.2 |
| Mich | 72,203 | 4,098,462 | 56.76 | −.5 | −.2 | −4.8 | −1.7 |
| Minn | 51,440 | 3,608,244 | 70.14 | −.1 | −.7 | −1.0 | +5.1 |
| Miss | 70,836 | 2,044,957 | 28.87 | +.1 | +1.6 | +3.5 | +6.7 |
| Mo | 130,574 | 6,488,264 | 49.69 | −.4 | −.4 | −1.9 | −1.6 |
| Mont | 8,743 | 508,317 | 58.14 | −1.4 | −1.5 | −5.5 | −4.8 |
| Nebr. [4] | 17,548 | 917,912 | 52.31 | −.2 | −.1 | −2.4 | +2.3 |
| Nev | 2,596 | 149,252 | 57.49 | −.6 | −.6 | −2.1 | −2.0 |
| N. H | 6,069 | 375,345 | 61.85 | −.8 | −1.2 | −5.2 | −.2 |
| N. J | 19,906 | 1,443,580 | 72.52 | −.3 | −.2 | −3.3 | +4.3 |
| N. Mex | 9,264 | 436,940 | 47.17 | −10.8 | −9.8 | −24.0 | −21.8 |
| N. Y | 98,283 | 8,088,581 | 82.30 | −.3 | (5) | −5.1 | +1.3 |
| N. C | 51,489 | 1,646,917 | 31.99 | (5) | +.2 | (5) | +2.3 |
| N. Dak | 8,075 | 583,422 | 72.25 | −.2 | +3.0 | −2.5 | +9.5 |
| Ohio | 99,373 | 5,844,803 | 58.82 | −.6 | +.3 | −3.2 | −1.6 |
| Okla | 95,031 | 6,099,606 | 64.19 | (5) | −.2 | −.1 | +9.1 |
| Oreg | 18,893 | 1,230,057 | 65.11 | −.2 | −1.0 | −5.3 | −4.7 |
| Pa | 54,030 | 2,522,450 | 46.69 | −.7 | +.3 | −6.7 | −5.5 |
| P. R | 43,502 | 344,460 | 7.92 | −.2 | −.1 | −2.9 | −1.5 |
| R. I | 8,026 | 494,965 | 61.67 | (3) | +.5 | −3.1 | +2.5 |
| S. C | 42,779 | 1,392,466 | 32.55 | −.2 | −.2 | −.9 | +.7 |
| S. Dak | 10,483 | 470,732 | 44.90 | −.3 | −.5 | −4.1 | −3.5 |
| Tenn | 62,538 | 2,147,693 | 34.34 | −.8 | −.9 | −6.7 | −7.3 |
| Tex | 222,636 | 9,268,173 | 41.63 | −.1 | −.1 | +.2 | +7.5 |
| Utah | 9,377 | 565,538 | 60.31 | −.1 | +.2 | −1.3 | +.2 |
| Vt | 6,773 | 332,612 | 49.11 | −.3 | (3) | −2.2 | +8.3 |
| V. I | 679 | 12,607 | 18.57 | 0 | −.1 | +.3 | +32.2 |
| Va | 16,867 | 518,999 | 30.77 | −.7 | −.3 | −2.2 | +1.3 |
| Wash | 57,443 | 4,727,084 | 82.29 | −.2 | −.2 | −4.2 | [6] +28.1 |
| W. Va | 23,256 | 647,688 | 27.85 | −.6 | −.4 | −6.6 | −6.0 |
| Wis | 42,126 | 2,743,086 | 65.12 | −.5 | +4.6 | −3.5 | −.2 |
| Wyo | 3,927 | 231,565 | 58.97 | −.4 | −.5 | −2.9 | −1.9 |

[1] For definition of terms see the *Bulletin*, January 1953, p. 16. All data subject to revision.
[2] Includes 4,305 recipients aged 60-64 in Colorado and payments of $387,629 to these recipients. Such payments are made without Federal participation.
[3] Decrease of less than 0.05 percent.
[4] In addition to these payments from old-age assistance funds, supplemental payments of $117,318 were made from general assistance funds.
[5] Increase of less than 0.05 percent.
[6] Based on data excluding vendor payments for medical care for February 1955.

## Table 11.—*Aid to the blind: Recipients and payments to recipients, by State, February 1956*[1]

[Includes vendor payments for medical care and cases receiving only such payments]

| State | Number of recipients | Payments to recipients: Total amount | Payments to recipients: Average | Percentage change from January 1956 in—: Number | January 1956 in—: Amount | Percentage change from February 1955 in—: Number | February 1955 in—: Amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total [2] | 104,772 | $6,110,375 | $58.32 | −0.2 | +0.2 | +1.9 | +4.9 |
| Ala | 1,664 | 55,182 | 33.16 | −.1 | +.7 | +6.3 | +1.1 |
| Alaska | 72 | 4,904 | 68.11 | (3) | (3) | (3) | (3) |
| Ariz | 764 | 49,334 | 64.57 | +.9 | +1.5 | +7.3 | +8.5 |
| Ark | 2,025 | 80,132 | 39.57 | +.4 | +.4 | +3.5 | +1.4 |
| Calif. [2] | 12,915 | 1,147,599 | 88.86 | −.8 | −.6 | +3.4 | +8.3 |
| Colo | 322 | 21,390 | 66.43 | +.3 | −.1 | −1.8 | +8.4 |
| Conn | 340 | 31,986 | 94.08 | +.9 | +.8 | +9.0 | +13.5 |
| Del | 215 | 13,418 | 62.41 | −.9 | −1.3 | +2.9 | +5.1 |
| D. C | 253 | 15,352 | 60.68 | −1.2 | −1.4 | −1.2 | +1.6 |
| Fla | 2,715 | 132,738 | 48.89 | −1.3 | −1.7 | −5.3 | −5.1 |
| Ga | 3,417 | 147,839 | 43.27 | (4) | (5) | +2.7 | +3.9 |
| Hawaii | 108 | 6,104 | 56.52 | +2.9 | +2.8 | −1.8 | +.7 |
| Idaho | 188 | 11,617 | 61.79 | +1.6 | +.5 | −.5 | +1.3 |
| Ill | 3,475 | 235,092 | 67.65 | 0 | +1.0 | −2.8 | +1.2 |
| Ind | 1,789 | 109,158 | 61.02 | −.1 | −2.8 | +1.0 | +4.3 |
| Iowa | 1,475 | 109,136 | 73.99 | +.7 | +.9 | +2.4 | +3.7 |
| Kans | 630 | 45,095 | 71.58 | +.8 | +1.2 | +1.0 | +1.6 |
| Ky | 3,075 | 113,820 | 37.01 | +.2 | +.2 | +6.2 | +5.8 |
| La | 2,052 | 103,438 | 50.41 | +.3 | +.4 | +1.7 | +3.6 |
| Maine | 533 | 28,834 | 54.10 | −.6 | +.2 | −4.1 | +2.3 |
| Md | 487 | 25,705 | 52.78 | +1.0 | +1.1 | +3.6 | +7.5 |
| Mass | 1,842 | 192,159 | 104.32 | +.6 | +2.1 | +3.4 | +14.8 |
| Mich | 1,782 | 113,873 | 63.90 | −.6 | −.4 | −1.9 | (4) |
| Minn | 1,218 | 102,607 | 84.24 | −.3 | +6.1 | −1.5 | +.6 |
| Miss | 3,763 | 130,990 | 34.81 | +.6 | +.6 | +9.5 | +11.1 |
| Mo. [2] | 4,535 | 272,100 | 60.00 | +.6 | +.6 | +13.7 | +24.1 |
| Mont | 421 | 27,660 | 65.70 | −4.8 | −3.5 | −7.1 | −5.4 |
| Nebr. [6] | 806 | 52,232 | 64.80 | +.4 | +.5 | +12.7 | +26.6 |
| Nev | 115 | 8,665 | 75.35 | +.9 | +.6 | +15.0 | +15.0 |
| N. H | 269 | 17,665 | 65.67 | 0 | −2.9 | 0 | +2.9 |
| N. J | 914 | 63,743 | 69.74 | −.1 | +.4 | +5.1 | +6.0 |
| N. Mex | 374 | 17,888 | 47.83 | −7.0 | −7.4 | −12.6 | −10.7 |
| N. Y | 4,357 | 391,457 | 89.85 | +.2 | +.5 | −.6 | +4.2 |
| N. C | 4,842 | 197,857 | 40.86 | −.4 | −.6 | +1.1 | +2.2 |
| N. Dak | 120 | 6,861 | 57.18 | +2.6 | +6.0 | +5.3 | +9.2 |
| Ohio | 3,752 | 214,176 | 57.08 | (5) | +.7 | +.8 | +.6 |
| Okla | 2,011 | 155,775 | 77.46 | +.2 | +.3 | −1.5 | +8.3 |
| Oreg | 329 | 24,534 | 74.57 | 0 | −.6 | −9.1 | −9.8 |
| Pa. [2] | 16,552 | 846,228 | 51.13 | −.2 | +.2 | +1.3 | +1.3 |
| P. R | 1,613 | 12,722 | 7.89 | +.3 | +.6 | +8.6 | +10.4 |
| R. I | 166 | 11,850 | 71.39 | −1.2 | −1.4 | −7.8 | −7.5 |
| S. C | 1,771 | 66,960 | 37.81 | −.5 | −.5 | +1.6 | +2.3 |
| S. Dak | 202 | 8,992 | 44.51 | −1.0 | −.6 | −1.0 | +1.3 |
| Tenn | 3,176 | 128,642 | 40.50 | −.7 | −1.0 | −3.3 | −5.8 |
| Tex | 6,506 | 294,457 | 45.26 | −.2 | −.1 | +1.6 | +4.4 |
| Utah | 238 | 15,951 | 67.02 | +2.6 | +1.2 | +5.8 | +5.8 |
| Vt | 141 | 6,968 | 49.42 | −1.4 | −1.0 | −13.0 | −10.6 |
| V. I | 32 | 614 | (3) | (3) | (3) | (3) | (3) |
| Va | 1,311 | 48,951 | 37.34 | 0 | +.3 | +.2 | +5.7 |
| Wash. [2] | 770 | 70,716 | 91.84 | +.5 | +1.1 | −1.0 | [7] +15.6 |
| W. Va | 1,155 | 36,911 | 31.96 | −.3 | −.4 | −3.3 | −4.3 |
| Wis | 1,108 | 77,925 | 70.33 | −.5 | +3.3 | −4.6 | (5) |
| Wyo | 67 | 4,373 | 65.27 | (3) | (3) | (3) | (3) |

[1] For definition of terms see the *Bulletin*, January 1953, p. 16. All data subject to revision.
[2] Data include recipients of payments made without Federal participation and payments to these recipients as follows: California, $37,065 to 396 recipients; Missouri, $33,140 to 542 recipients; Pennsylvania, $391,728 to 8,024 recipients; and Washington, $180 to 3 recipients.
[3] Average payment not computed on base of less than 50 recipients; percentage change, on less than 100 recipients.
[4] Decrease of less than 0.05 percent.
[5] Increase of less than 0.05 percent.
[6] In addition to these payments from aid to the blind funds, supplemental payments of $6,374 were made from general assistance funds.
[7] Based on data excluding vendor payments for medical care for February 1955.

## Table 12.—*Aid to dependent children: Recipients and payments to recipients, by State, February 1956*[1]

[Includes vendor payments for medical care and cases receiving only such payments]

| State | Number of families | Number of recipients | | Payments to recipients | | | Percentage change from— | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Average per— | | January 1956 in— | | February 1955 in— | |
| | | Total[2] | Children | Total amount | Family | Recipient | Number of families | Amount | Number of families | Amount |
| Total | 608,628 | 2,220,653 | 1,682,363 | $54,051,818 | $88.81 | $24.34 | +0.5 | +1.1 | −1.5 | +1.6 |
| Alabama | 19,306 | 75,002 | 57,767 | 793,992 | 41.13 | 10.59 | +.7 | +.9 | +11.8 | +6.7 |
| Alaska | 1,374 | 4,780 | 3,522 | 138,991 | 101.16 | 29.08 | +1.1 | +1.0 | +14.5 | +57.5 |
| Arizona | 4,637 | 17,917 | 13,580 | 418,598 | 90.27 | 23.36 | +.6 | +.6 | −1.1 | −1.0 |
| Arkansas | 7,897 | 29,866 | 23,144 | 441,940 | 55.96 | 14.80 | +5.3 | +6.3 | −9.2 | −7.6 |
| California | 53,017 | 180,916 | 138,920 | 6,689,582 | 126.18 | 36.98 | +.7 | +1.8 | −5.3 | −4.7 |
| Colorado | 5,862 | 22,191 | 17,086 | 642,787 | 109.65 | 28.97 | +1.0 | +1.0 | −2.1 | +9.8 |
| Connecticut | 5,345 | 17,263 | 12,835 | 719,801 | 134.67 | 41.70 | +.4 | +1.6 | +9.2 | +7.2 |
| Delaware | 1,172 | 4,542 | 3,480 | 99,672 | 85.04 | 21.94 | +1.6 | +3.5 | +12.9 | +10.3 |
| District of Columbia | 2,072 | 8,827 | 6,894 | 226,858 | 109.49 | 25.70 | +1.1 | +1.2 | −13.0 | −10.5 |
| Florida | 21,373 | 75,833 | 57,893 | 1,174,130 | 54.94 | 15.48 | +.2 | +.2 | +2.2 | +2.9 |
| Georgia | 14,918 | 54,826 | 41,915 | 1,131,171 | 75.83 | 20.63 | +.4 | +.5 | +.5 | +1.4 |
| Hawaii | 3,220 | 12,215 | 9,684 | 266,556 | 82.78 | 21.82 | −1.0 | −7.2 | −1.0 | −9.7 |
| Idaho | 1,847 | 6,708 | 4,939 | 239,795 | 129.83 | 35.75 | +.8 | +1.5 | −2.9 | +.9 |
| Illinois | 22,217 | 86,621 | 65,694 | 3,006,126 | 135.31 | 34.70 | +1.2 | +1.5 | +8.0 | +10.8 |
| Indiana | 8,646 | 30,537 | 22,686 | 794,953 | 91.94 | 26.03 | −.5 | +.6 | +.1 | +2.4 |
| Iowa | 6,727 | 24,284 | 18,129 | 743,593 | 110.54 | 30.62 | +1.6 | +2.4 | +2.9 | −.8 |
| Kansas | 4,596 | 16,846 | 12,980 | 521,301 | 113.42 | 30.95 | +.9 | +2.0 | +3.8 | +4.7 |
| Kentucky | 18,692 | 67,558 | 50,608 | 1,191,296 | 63.73 | 17.63 | −.1 | −.1 | −.2 | +1.0 |
| Louisiana | 19,108 | 74,914 | 57,153 | 1,392,155 | 72.86 | 18.58 | −.2 | +.7 | +6.6 | +20.0 |
| Maine | 4,450 | 15,430 | 11,158 | 377,236 | 84.77 | 24.45 | +.2 | (3) | −.2 | +3.3 |
| Maryland | 6,337 | 25,922 | 20,149 | 618,395 | 97.58 | 23.86 | +1.2 | +1.9 | −1.2 | +.6 |
| Massachusetts | 12,734 | 42,592 | 31,569 | 1,650,480 | 129.61 | 38.75 | +.5 | +.5 | −1.3 | +1.1 |
| Michigan | 18,813 | 64,932 | 47,365 | 2,163,102 | 114.98 | 33.31 | −.5 | −.1 | −7.1 | −3.2 |
| Minnesota | 8,032 | 27,262 | 20,937 | 1,005,055 | 125.13 | 36.87 | +.9 | +.5 | +3.7 | +8.4 |
| Mississippi | 11,723 | 43,507 | 33,716 | 323,881 | 27.63 | 7.44 | +.1 | (3) | −25.1 | −19.5 |
| Missouri | 20,426 | 72,633 | 54,083 | 1,397,214 | 68.40 | 19.24 | −.5 | −.1 | −5.7 | −4.5 |
| Montana | 1,919 | 6,764 | 5,132 | 206,202 | 107.45 | 30.49 | −8.4 | −8.1 | −9.9 | −7.2 |
| Nebraska | 2,686 | 9,867 | 7,422 | 265,099 | 98.70 | 26.87 | +2.4 | +2.5 | +4.4 | +9.7 |
| Nevada | 376 | 1,319 | 993 | 33,299 | 88.56 | 25.25 | +10.9 | +11.3 | (4) | (4) |
| New Hampshire | 1,017 | 3,779 | 2,842 | 134,509 | 132.26 | 35.59 | −.2 | −.2 | −4.0 | −1.4 |
| New Jersey | 6,355 | 21,325 | 16,157 | 768,605 | 120.94 | 36.04 | +.7 | +.6 | +11.4 | +16.1 |
| New Mexico | 6,012 | 22,428 | 17,143 | 472,848 | 78.65 | 21.08 | −.1 | +.2 | −13.3 | −7.6 |
| New York | 54,487 | 197,902 | 145,534 | 7,656,031 | 140.51 | 38.69 | +.7 | +.6 | +1.6 | +5.2 |
| North Carolina | 19,684 | 75,795 | 58,063 | 1,228,483 | 62.41 | 16.21 | +1.4 | +1.8 | +1.2 | +2.2 |
| North Dakota | 1,572 | 5,732 | 4,380 | 194,355 | 123.64 | 33.91 | +1.5 | +4.0 | +6.4 | +9.9 |
| Ohio[5] | 16,626 | 63,235 | 48,062 | 1,535,934 | 92.38 | 24.29 | +1.1 | +2.2 | +10.5 | +11.3 |
| Oklahoma | 15,661 | 52,211 | 39,861 | 1,269,093 | 81.04 | 24.31 | +.7 | +4.1 | +1.3 | +7.8 |
| Oregon | 3,541 | 12,683 | 9,604 | 431,933 | 121.98 | 34.06 | +.7 | +.9 | −10.8 | −12.0 |
| Pennsylvania | 29,201 | 111,842 | 84,736 | 3,156,966 | 108.11 | 28.23 | +.5 | +2.1 | −2.8 | −.7 |
| Puerto Rico | 41,241 | 144,265 | 110,708 | 433,124 | 10.50 | 3.00 | (6) | +.6 | −1.9 | +.6 |
| Rhode Island | 3,430 | 11,924 | 8,805 | 394,540 | 115.03 | 33.09 | +.6 | +.6 | +1.4 | +4.1 |
| South Carolina | 8,204 | 31,793 | 24,807 | 389,466 | 47.47 | 12.25 | +.2 | +.1 | −.6 | −.3 |
| South Dakota | 2,769 | 9,259 | 7,048 | 227,574 | 82.19 | 24.58 | −.3 | −.1 | −3.6 | −2.6 |
| Tennessee | 19,660 | 70,830 | 52,884 | 1,185,663 | 60.31 | 16.74 | −.4 | −.3 | −9.6 | −8.6 |
| Texas | 21,053 | 85,042 | 64,263 | 1,241,221 | 58.96 | 14.60 | +.8 | +1.3 | −7.8 | −9.4 |
| Utah | 2,955 | 10,376 | 7,716 | 331,720 | 112.26 | 31.97 | +1.0 | +1.0 | −6.4 | −7.2 |
| Vermont | 1,083 | 3,756 | 2,814 | 87,446 | 80.74 | 23.28 | −.6 | −.2 | −1.4 | +2.0 |
| Virgin Islands | 219 | 818 | 671 | 7,662 | 34.99 | 9.37 | +.9 | +.4 | +18.4 | +74.1 |
| Virginia | 9,015 | 35,236 | 27,297 | 599,389 | 66.49 | 17.01 | +1.1 | +1.5 | +2.1 | +5.2 |
| Washington | 9,036 | 31,205 | 22,967 | 1,095,589 | 121.25 | 35.11 | +1.3 | +2.1 | +.1 | [7] +15.8 |
| West Virginia | 17,548 | 66,524 | 51,744 | 1,294,014 | 73.74 | 19.45 | −.4 | −.3 | −7.6 | −6.8 |
| Wisconsin | 8,124 | 28,623 | 21,147 | 1,174,858 | 144.62 | 41.05 | +.7 | +1.9 | −1.4 | +1.6 |
| Wyoming | 613 | 2,196 | 1,677 | 67,535 | 110.17 | 30.75 | +1.7 | +1.6 | +10.5 | +11.0 |

[1] For definition of terms see the *Bulletin*, January 1953, p. 16. All data subject to revision.
[2] Includes as recipients the children and 1 parent or other adult relative in families in which the requirements of at least 1 such adult were considered in determining the amount of assistance.
[3] Increase of less than 0.05 percent.
[4] Not computed; July 1955 first month of operation under approved plan.
[5] In addition to these payments from aid to dependent children funds, supplemental payments of $146,837 from general assistance funds were made to 3,940 families.
[6] Decrease of less than 0.05 percent.
[7] Based on data excluding vendor payments for medical care for February 1955.

**SOCIAL SECURITY IN REVIEW**

**(*Continued from page 2*)**

represent new unemployment. The 22-percent drop in the number of these claims brought the February total down to 1.0 million.

During an average week in February, 1.3 million workers covered by the State programs and by the program of unemployment compensation for Federal employees received benefits—about 8 percent more than the number in January. Their benefits totaled $143.9 million, or about $8.2 million more than the amount paid in the preceding month. The average check for total unemployment rose to $26.95. This is the highest average payment in the history of the program.

**Table 13.—*Aid to the permanently and totally disabled: Recipients and payments to recipients, by State, February 1956*** [1]

[Includes vendor payments for medical care and cases receiving only such payments]

| State | Number of recipients | Payments to recipients | | Percentage change from— | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | January 1956 in— | | February 1955 in— | |
| | | Total amount | Average | Number | Amount | Number | Amount |
| Total | 247,117 | $13,943,767 | $56.43 | +0.8 | +1.2 | +8.6 | +12.3 |
| Ala | 11,252 | 382,237 | 33.97 | +.1 | +.8 | +20.4 | +15.0 |
| Ark | 5,234 | 165,098 | 31.54 | +1.0 | +1.1 | +18.6 | +21.4 |
| Colo | 5,057 | 291,864 | 57.71 | +.6 | +.6 | +2.7 | +14.6 |
| Conn | 2,103 | 247,306 | 117.60 | +.5 | +3.9 | +24.5 | +37.3 |
| Del | 328 | 18,184 | 55.44 | +.6 | +1.7 | +87.4 | +95.0 |
| D. C | 2,265 | 138,529 | 61.16 | +.3 | +.3 | +3.6 | +5.5 |
| Fla | 1,034 | 49,282 | 47.66 | +25.3 | +25.8 | ------- | ------- |
| Ga | 11,375 | 479,376 | 42.14 | +1.2 | +1.6 | +34.0 | +34.6 |
| Hawaii | 1,283 | 75,999 | 59.24 | −.8 | −3.1 | −.6 | −5.1 |
| Idaho | 884 | 54,577 | 61.74 | −.6 | −1.0 | +5.1 | +7.2 |
| Ill | 6,505 | 520,950 | 80.08 | +2.3 | +2.0 | +9.4 | +9.2 |
| Kans | 3,686 | 263,423 | 71.47 | +1.2 | +3.7 | +11.4 | +18.8 |
| La | 13,542 | 606,504 | 44.79 | +.4 | +1.1 | +11.4 | +17.5 |
| Maine | 548 | 31,798 | 58.03 | +20.2 | +20.1 | ------- | ------- |
| Md | 4,988 | 273,439 | 54.82 | +.2 | +.5 | +16.1 | +20.4 |
| Mass | 10,623 | 1,086,210 | 102.25 | +.6 | +3.0 | +9.4 | +16.0 |
| Mich | 2,447 | 181,336 | 74.11 | +1.3 | +2.1 | +13.3 | +17.1 |
| Minn | 1,119 | 64,169 | 57.34 | +4.6 | +4.6 | +84.3 | +90.5 |
| Miss | 3,485 | 85,501 | 24.53 | +3.7 | +3.7 | +22.2 | +22.0 |
| Mo | 13,158 | 685,525 | 52.10 | −.1 | −.1 | −7.1 | −6.7 |
| Mont | 1,427 | 92,504 | 64.82 | −1.3 | −.9 | −2.7 | +.3 |
| Nebr.[2] | 771 | 42,851 | 55.58 | +12.1 | +13.3 | ------- | ------- |
| N. H | 276 | 20,552 | 74.46 | +1.8 | +1.1 | +25.5 | +30.8 |
| N. J | 3,766 | 317,807 | 84.39 | +1.3 | +1.4 | +23.3 | +32.1 |
| N. Mex | 1,653 | 72,556 | 43.89 | −5.3 | −4.7 | −10.7 | −2.8 |
| N. Y | 40,377 | 3,491,262 | 86.47 | +.4 | −.4 | +.6 | +4.9 |
| N. C | 12,323 | 469,811 | 38.12 | +1.5 | +2.2 | +18.1 | +21.3 |
| N. Dak | 914 | 78,586 | 85.98 | +1.4 | +.9 | +8.0 | +16.4 |
| Ohio [2] | 7,773 | 393,130 | 50.58 | +2.0 | +2.4 | −.8 | +.8 |
| Okla | 6,334 | 371,494 | 58.65 | +1.1 | +1.5 | +16.3 | +17.8 |
| Oreg | 3,228 | 244,463 | 75.73 | +1.2 | +1.7 | +4.5 | +3.4 |
| Pa | 13,146 | 721,846 | 54.91 | −.1 | +.9 | +2.8 | +4.1 |
| P. R | 19,301 | 168,259 | 8.72 | +.3 | +.9 | +3.2 | +5.0 |
| R. I | 1,552 | 117,824 | 75.92 | +2.2 | +.8 | +10.9 | +14.5 |
| S. C | 7,917 | 251,919 | 31.82 | −.8 | −.7 | +7.0 | +7.9 |
| S. Dak | 778 | 36,002 | 46.28 | +2.6 | +2.9 | +19.5 | +18.8 |
| Tenn | 1,871 | 73,197 | 39.12 | +2.7 | +2.5 | +30.0 | +27.9 |
| Utah | 1,829 | 119,209 | 65.18 | +.6 | +.6 | +4.6 | +6.1 |
| Vt | 516 | 26,239 | 50.85 | +1.8 | +2.0 | +17.3 | +21.4 |
| V. I | 99 | 1,892 | 19.11 | −1.0 | −1.2 | (3) | (3) |
| Va | 4,785 | 191,209 | 39.96 | +1.4 | +1.9 | +5.2 | +9.3 |
| Wash | 5,402 | 527,710 | 97.69 | +1.4 | +1.5 | −2.0 | [4] +33.6 |
| W. Va | 8,524 | 266,945 | 31.32 | −.4 | −.2 | +3.4 | +3.3 |
| Wis | 1,170 | 116,739 | 99.78 | +.3 | +10.1 | +3.6 | +14.0 |
| Wyo | 469 | 28,454 | 60.67 | +.9 | +1.1 | 0 | +2.1 |

[1] For definition of terms see the *Bulletin*, January 1953, p. 16. All data subject to revision.

[2] In addition to these payments from aid to the permanently and totally disabled funds, supplemental payments of $7,883 from general assistance funds were made to some recipients in Nebraska and $46,790 to 1,845 recipients in Ohio.

[3] Percentage change not computed on base of less than 100 recipients.

[4] Based on data excluding vendor payments for medical care for February 1955.

**Errata**: In the January 1956 issue—

***Line 10 of the third full paragraph, column 2, page 10, should read:***

**port. Before 1955 the Tennessee Depart-**

***The second and third sentences in paragraph 2, page 12, should be omitted.***

**Table 14.—*General assistance: Cases and payments to cases, by State, February 1956*** [1]

[Excludes vendor payments for medical care and cases receiving only such payments]

| State | Number of cases | Payments to cases | | Percentage change from— | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | January 1956 in— | | February 1955 in— | |
| | | Total amount | Average | Number | Amount | Number | Amount |
| Total [2] | 336,000 | $18,505,000 | $55.12 | +1.6 | +2.7 | −11.6 | −14.0 |
| Ala | 151 | 3,677 | 24.35 | +4.9 | +7.2 | +1.3 | +1.1 |
| Alaska | 200 | 11,213 | 56.06 | −18.7 | −15.6 | +21.2 | +3.4 |
| Ariz | 1,880 | 79,648 | 42.37 | +6.7 | +2.7 | +2.1 | +5.1 |
| Ark.[3] | 387 | 5,364 | 13.86 | −7.0 | −9.7 | −69.2 | −73.6 |
| Calif | 33,162 | 1,663,686 | 50.17 | −1.2 | +.5 | −10.0 | −8.2 |
| Colo | 2,567 | 122,368 | 47.67 | +18.6 | +23.3 | −2.8 | +12.1 |
| Conn | [4] 2,988 | [4] 172,127 | 57.61 | +5.0 | +5.2 | −19.0 | −16.9 |
| Del | 1,252 | 76,916 | 61.43 | +8.4 | +19.2 | −18.4 | −9.7 |
| D. C | 583 | 36,680 | 62.92 | +1.7 | +2.3 | +12.1 | +15.0 |
| Fla.[5] | 5,300 | 92,500 | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- |
| Ga | 2,445 | 52,282 | 21.38 | +4.4 | +3.7 | −5.5 | −10.8 |
| Hawaii | 1,975 | 100,297 | 50.78 | −4.8 | −9.5 | −1.0 | −11.3 |
| Idaho [6] | 82 | 3,927 | 47.89 | (7) | (7) | (7) | (7) |
| Ill | 37,124 | 2,601,574 | 70.08 | +2.3 | +2.2 | −12.7 | −15.1 |
| Ind.[8] | 12,826 | 473,511 | 36.92 | +.6 | −8.1 | −14.2 | −19.9 |
| Iowa | 4,747 | 173,072 | 36.46 | +2.7 | +3.7 | −3.7 | −1.3 |
| Kans | 2,438 | 138,080 | 56.64 | +7.5 | +13.2 | −1.2 | −1.3 |
| Ky | 3,160 | 92,606 | 29.31 | +.6 | +.5 | −2.7 | −4.9 |
| La | 7,726 | 320,730 | 41.51 | +.8 | +1.9 | +4.7 | +10.8 |
| Maine | 3,645 | 172,299 | 47.27 | −3.0 | −1.1 | −15.4 | −9.5 |
| Md | 1,873 | 101,965 | 54.44 | +5.1 | +6.4 | −33.9 | −36.4 |
| Mass | 12,140 | 681,516 | 56.14 | −.1 | +2.1 | −16.0 | −14.1 |
| Mich | 18,240 | 1,238,443 | 67.90 | +5.6 | +8.3 | −16.9 | −15.2 |
| Minn | 7,791 | 494,299 | 63.44 | +3.1 | +7.3 | −14.5 | −12.0 |
| Miss | 918 | 12,335 | 13.44 | +1.2 | +2.5 | −.3 | −1.3 |
| Mo | 6,238 | 257,588 | 41.29 | −.9 | +.7 | −.9 | +7.0 |
| Mont | 941 | 38,563 | 40.98 | −22.9 | −16.5 | −29.8 | −20.1 |
| Nebr | 1,698 | 65,902 | 38.81 | −3.2 | −2.0 | −11.0 | −18.8 |
| Nev.[9] | 330 | 10,900 | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- |
| N. H | 1,152 | 53,801 | 46.70 | −.9 | −7.4 | −22.9 | −22.8 |
| N. J.[8] | 8,348 | 642,187 | 76.93 | −1.3 | −2.1 | −20.5 | −20.7 |
| N. Mex | 318 | 8,277 | 26.03 | −20.3 | −18.4 | −47.3 | −46.2 |
| N. Y | [10] 29,557 | 2,458,358 | 83.17 | +1.4 | +2.0 | −16.1 | −17.2 |
| N. C | 2,697 | 55,351 | 20.52 | −4.5 | −3.3 | +2.0 | +3.9 |
| N. Dak | 844 | 41,881 | 49.62 | +8.6 | +7.0 | +7.5 | +18.9 |
| Ohio [11] | 31,825 | 1,642,568 | 51.61 | +1.8 | +1.9 | −14.7 | −20.9 |
| Okla.[12] | 8,061 | 147,645 | 18.32 | +3.8 | +4.8 | ------- | ------- |
| Oreg | 4,341 | 249,873 | 57.56 | +3.2 | +5.9 | −.9 | +39.7 |
| Pa | 25,214 | 1,767,235 | 70.09 | +1.2 | +2.4 | −20.9 | −26.2 |
| P. R | 876 | 10,050 | 11.47 | +.2 | +1.2 | −12.2 | +13.1 |
| R. I | 3,680 | 261,494 | 71.06 | −1.7 | −6.9 | −15.7 | −11.1 |
| S. C | 1,874 | 41,922 | 22.37 | −1.8 | −.6 | −17.0 | −18.5 |
| S. Dak | 1,441 | 58,560 | 40.64 | +16.7 | +7.9 | −3.9 | +25.0 |
| Tenn | 2,893 | 52,243 | 18.06 | +1.8 | −.5 | +9.0 | +20.9 |
| Tex.[13] | 9,000 | 204,000 | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- |
| Utah | 1,878 | 122,602 | 65.28 | +3.6 | +2.9 | −18.1 | −16.0 |
| Vt.[13] | 1,200 | 52,000 | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- |
| V. I | 115 | 2,198 | 19.11 | +.9 | +1.9 | (7) | (7) |
| Va | 2,277 | 78,510 | 34.48 | +3.8 | +6.6 | −14.0 | −19.7 |
| Wash | 14,163 | 905,773 | 63.95 | +5.4 | +7.5 | +11.1 | +15.2 |
| W. Va | 2,369 | 69,709 | 29.43 | +2.3 | +3.6 | −8.5 | −5.8 |
| Wis | 8,278 | 612,962 | 74.05 | +2.5 | +5.7 | −24.6 | −26.1 |
| Wyo | 497 | 30,143 | 60.65 | +15.6 | +25.1 | −6.0 | +1.3 |

[1] For definition of terms see the *Bulletin*, January 1953, p. 16. All data subject to revision.

[2] Partly estimated; does not represent sum of State figures because total excludes for Indiana and New Jersey an estimated number of cases receiving medical care, hospitalization, and burial only and payments for these services.

[3] State program only; excludes program administered by local officials.

[4] About 4 percent of this total is estimated.

[5] Partly estimated.

[6] Excludes assistance in kind and cases receiving assistance in kind only and, for a few counties, cash payments and cases receiving cash payments.

[7] Percentage change not computed on base of less than 100 cases.

[8] Includes unknown number of cases receiving medical care, hospitalization, and burial only, and total payments for these services.

[9] Estimated.

[10] Includes cases receiving medical care only.

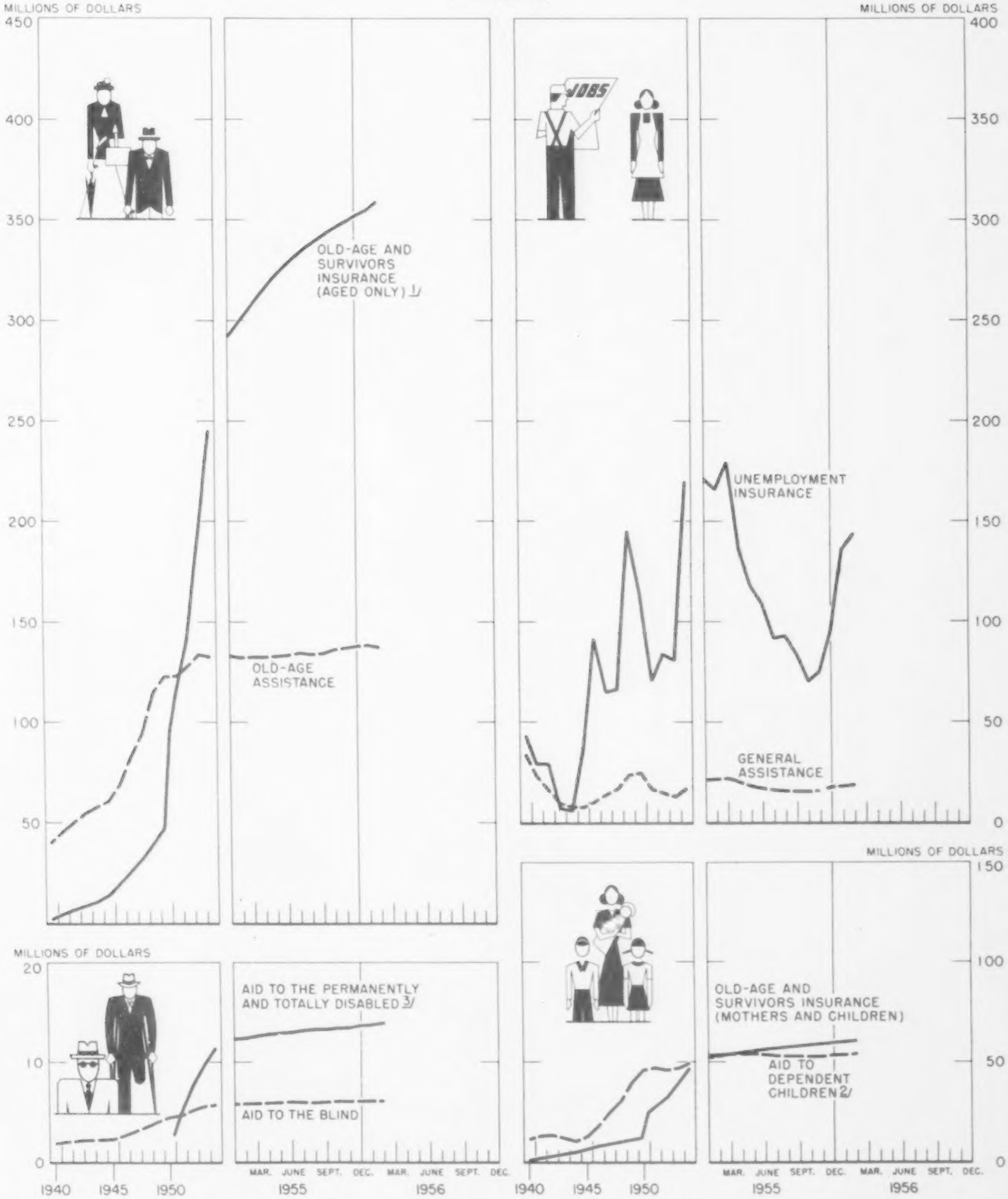
[11] Includes 8,423 cases and payments of $297,025 representing supplementation of other assistance programs.

[12] Includes an unknown number of cases receiving vendor payments for medical care only and an unknown amount of vendor payments for medical care. Percentage change not computed for February 1955; comparable data not available.

[13] Estimated on basis of reports from sample of local jurisdictions.

# *Social Security Operations**

## PAYMENTS




* Old-age and survivors insurance: benefits paid during month (current-payment status); annual data represent average monthly total. Public assistance: payments during month under all State programs; annual data represent average monthly total. Unemployment insurance: gross benefits paid during month under all State laws; annual data represent average monthly total.

[1] Receiving old-age, wife's or husband's, widow's or widower's, or parent's benefit. Beginning September 1950, includes a small proportion of wife beneficiaries under age 65 with child beneficiaries in their care.

[2] Children plus 1 adult per family when adults are included in assistance group; before October 1950, partly estimated.

[3] Program initiated October 1950.

NOTE: Data for payments and data for individuals receiving payments appear in alternate months.

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, $300
(GPO)

# *Reprints from the Social Security Bulletin*

*Age of Wife When Husband Retires* (December 1955)

*Annual Statistical Supplement, 1954* (September 1955)

*Concurrent Receipt of Public Assistance and Old-Age and Survivors Insurance*, by Sue Ossman (September 1955)

*Economic Resources of Persons Aged 65 and Over*, by Lenore A. Epstein (June 1955)

*Federal Credit Unions: Origin and Development*, by Erdis W. Smith (November 1955)

*The Growth in Protection Against Income Loss From Short-Term Sickness: 1948–54* (January 1956)

*The Growth of Voluntary Health Insurance: 1948–54* (December 1955)

*Incapacity and Hospital Care of Aged Beneficiaries of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance*, by Dorothy McCamman and Agnes W. Brewster (July 1955)

*Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Administrative Expenses* (July 1955)

*The Social Security Act: The First Twenty Years* (August 1955)

*Social Welfare in the United States, 1934–54*, by Ida C. Merriam (October 1955)

**Reprints of the *Bulletin* articles listed above are available in limited quantities. Requests should be addressed to the Social Security Administration, Washington 25, D. C.**